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AL-AHRAM VIEWS REAGAN, SHULTZ ROLES IN IRAN ARMS DEAL

JN221321 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 20 Nov 86 p 7

[Editorial: "Dual Roles"]

[Text] Contradicting statements by U.S. officials about secret contacts with Iran does not mean these contacts will not continue. Admittedly these contacts have been affected by the suddenness of their disclosure. Their temporary suspension, however, may serve as a breather after which the contacts could be picked up with increased enthusiasm. These contacts had strategic dimensions that the two sides did not conceal. If weapons are vital to Iran, the United States seeks to be rewarded in return with a weapon in the house of the ayatollahs, namely to win over moderates to form a new internal base. Many are waiting in the wings for the right moment, including such people as Bazargan, Bani-Sadr, and Rajavi.

Such a trend can be seen in the numerous statements and utterances which have come from Washington. White House spokesman Larry Speakes has defended President Reagan's constitutional right to have exclusive charge of U.S. foreign policy. On the other hand, other officials have asserted there is nothing wrong with the United States bargaining with Iran on grounds that if carried further, contacts with moderate elements could yield progress. However the great irony is that by justifying the arms shipments to Iran as being an encouragement to Iranian moderates, the United States risks alienating Arab moderates, Iraqis, and others. In point of fact, this paradox exposes the U.S. attitude to the Arabs. It bears testimony to the standard by which Washington treats the Arabs.

Shultz himself has declared that the U.S. arms deal with Iran would compound Washington's relations with Arabs. Obviously this statement smacks of an apology. But is that all the Arabs will receive of U.S. attention? A mere statement to appease the Arabs? By contrast, Iran has won the lion's share of a sudden opening up by Washington, in which the arms deal was a first gesture which may be followed by larger deals.

We fear the question is one of job distribution, with President Reagan taking charge of secret contacts to please the Iranians and with other officials publicly declaring their opposition to please the Arabs.

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CSO: 4500/32

AL-AHRAM: LIBYA, SYRIA, U.S. 'ALLIES' AGAINST ARABS

JN231830 Cairo AL-AHRAM in Arabic 21 Nov 86 p 3

[Editorial: "U.S. Support and Arab Silence"]

[Text] What was recently revealed regarding the U.S. arms supplies to Iran has undoubtedly raised several questions on the credibility of U.S. policy toward the region's issues. This has also proved that there is great disparity between declared U.S. objectives and Washington's covert policy.

Regardless of whether or not these military supplies were given within the framework of a deal to release U.S. hostages detained in Lebanon and without getting into arguments about whether the U.S. objectives behind the deal--as President Reagan said--were to encourage the moderate wing in Iran to continue cooperation with the West, this development reflects important facts which cannot be ignored by any political observer of the Middle East situation.

The first fact is that nothing can govern the direction of U.S. moves toward the region's issues except those issues related to its interests. The proof is that Iran, which has recently received from Washington weapons and ammunition worth more than a billion dollars, is the same Iran which the U.S. Administration classified earlier this year as being one of three states supporting, encouraging, and exporting international terrorism.

The second fact is that Washington fully realizes the Arab world is important regarding any reaction and that just as the Arabs were unable to stop or undermine the comprehensive U.S. support for Israel to make it withdraw from the occupied Arab territories, they will continue to stand idle before U.S. support for the Iranian war machine--a support which will enable Iran to continue its aggression against Iraq.

The third fact is that the effect of the U.S. support for Iran is not confined to the Iraq-Iran war, but includes all hotbeds of conflict in the region, particularly those related to the Arab-Israeli conflict, the Palestine question, and the Lebanese civil war and its continuous repercussions.

In light of this situation, it seems the Arab world is still unable to respond to the current developments which can no longer tolerate any silence, not only regarding the foreign forces which practice hostile policies against Arabs, but also regarding some Arab regimes which carry out the same policies and support the Iranian war machine.

The true starting point for any blame, confrontation, or protest against the U.S. support for Iran begins with taking to account Syria and Libya, which play the same role, carry out the same mission, and claim shamelessly they are against U.S. policy in the region, while, in light of this situation, they are allies in the same boat.

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CSO: 4500/32

AL-AHRAM VIEWS NEW REVELATIONS ON U.S. ARMS DEAL

NC270935 Cairo MENA in Arabic 0645 GMT 27 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 27 Nov (MENA)--In its editorial today, the AL-AHRAM newspaper again comments on the U.S. arms supply to Iran. The editorial focuses on the facts revealed by the U.S. attorney general's report which stated that the money paid for these weapons was secretly transferred to the rebels in Nicaragua.

The paper says: The United States sent arms to Iran via Israel; Iran sent the money for these arms to the United States via Israel; and the United States then sent the money paid for these weapons secretly to the rebels fighting against the leftist government in Nicaragua so that they could buy arms from America.

The paper describes this as a dubious cycle of money and weapons. It also reveals Washington's dealings with its rebel proteges in Central America.

The paper notes that this suspicious cycle not only indicates a state of chaos, as the Senate opposition Democratic majority leader has described it, but also a system and a certain regularity in the trading of arms for money and influence.

The paper continues: The changes which have taken place in the White House are just an echo to this reverberation. The apparent differences are the result of an inevitable contradiction between subordinating policy to arms or arms to policy.

In such cases, the paper adds, the U.S. President hastens to get rid of some of his senior aides who are constitutionally responsible to him in order to avoid a conflict with Congress. However, even if the Democrats escalate the situation to the point of impeachment, this will not eliminate the acuteness of the real inherent crisis; namely, the choice between principle and interest and between policy and arms when the two are in conflict.

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CSO: 4500/34

AL-AKHBAR VIEWS REAGAN 'FAILURE' TO RELEASE HOSTAGES

JN281120 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 25 Nov 86 p 1

[Article by Musa Sabri Headlined "Reagan Drinks From the Same Poisoned Glass"]

[Text] U.S. President Reagan is today killing himself with the same weapon which killed Carter during Reagan's first election campaign. Coincidentally, I observed this battle while in the United States and followed it day by day. Carter tried to save the hostages with a military operation following the failure of all covert and overt mediations between the White House and Iran's leaders to free the hostages. Afterward, the secrets of these contacts were revealed--contacts in which journalists and politicians of various nationalities took part. A 3-hour television program was devoted to these contacts and exposed all the efforts of U.S. intelligence. An Egyptian journalist was also asked to extend assistance in these contacts.

All these attempts did not achieve their objective. Afterward, a military operation to save the hostages failed. Reagan exploited this failure in his election campaign to convince U.S. voters that the great United States had lost its prestige and that the strong United States had been defeated by a weak country like Iran. The reason for this calamity is that any U.S. president is in a weak position. Hence, Reagan's accusations about Carter, which were repeated hundreds of times, were the first causes of Carter's downfall, who then began to practice his hobby of carpentry at home.

As days passed, Reagan began to drink from the same poisoned glass. In front of his people, Reagan turned into a liar and a weak president who violated the Constitution, wasted U.S. prestige, bypassed his secretaries of state, and ignored Congress. Moreover, in front of the world Reagan turned into a man who deceived his allies regarding fighting terrorism and, therefore, undermined U.S. reputation with that shameful retreat which secretly took place in the face of terrorism. Nobody knows how this bitter scandal will further develop.

In all that he did to save the hostages, Carter was working for U.S. interests. Reagan was also looking after U.S. interests. Both of them wanted to solve a difficult problem. However, the game of politics has no mercy on anyone whose plan does not succeed. Had Carter succeeded in saving the hostages, the people would have applauded him, but he failed and, therefore, he fell. Likewise, had Reagan succeeded, he would have been the strong president who achieved the impossible thing. However, failure is always disavowed by everyone.

U.S. SHOULD 'PRESSURE ISRAEL' TO RESTORE CREDIBILITY

NC261418 Cairo Domestic Service in Arabic 1240 GMT 26 Nov 86

[Hasan Fu'ad commentary: "How Can the United States Restore its Credibility in the Arab World?"]

[Excerpts] The world is still viewing with great interest the statements made by President Husni Mubarak and Jordanian King Husayn at the conclusion of their talks three days ago. President Mubarak noted the possibility that U.S. credibility in the Arab world has begun to suffer as a result of the secret U.S. arms deal with Iran, while King Husayn questioned the motives that prompted Washington to enter into contacts with Tehran and to conclude a secret arms deal with it. He explained that this deal, rather than ending the Gulf war, will escalate it in a way that will endanger the entire Arab entity.

If the United States continues to lose credibility in the Arab world, it will find it difficult to play an effective and positive role in the search for peace in the Middle East. This is particularly true now, when we are trying to convene an international peace conference. The United States is supposed to play a prominent role, alongside the other major powers, in this conference. But how can the U.S. Government do so when its credibility is at a low ebb?

The best thing that the United States can do to restore its credibility and position in the Arab World is to pressure Israel to stop the Jewish settlement drive in the occupied Arab territories. This would allow the anticipated international conference to be held in an atmosphere that would increase the chances of its success.

Israel must also show its good will by declaring a halt to the construction of new settlements and by ceasing the expansion of existing settlements. In so doing, Israel would take a serious and positive step toward comprehensive peace, and the United States would be able to restore its credibility in the eyes of the region's states.

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AL-AKHBAR ON LIBYAN 'MASSACRES' IN NORTHERN CHAD

JN221207 Cairo AL-AKHBAR in Arabic 19 Nov 86 p 5

[Editorial: "Halt Libya's Massacres in Chad"]

[Text] Amid the successive events in the region, the media has ignored the serious situation in Chad. Reports from Ndjamena confirm that Libyan occupation forces have carried out massacres north of Chad after arresting Goukouni Oueddi, head of the transitional national unity government and leader of the rebel forces opposed to Chad's legitimate President Hissein Habre.

Amid the terror to which Oueddi has been subjected, according to his spokesman (Qeylan Ahmed), from his office in Paris, the Libyan regime led by Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi has demonstrated its fumbling and al-Qadhdhafi's foolishness. Al-Qadhdhafi sent some of his troops to bring Oueddi and his aides to a meeting and when Oueddi refused, al-Qadhdhafi's men opened fire, leaving him seriously wounded after he killed two and wounded two others. Thus, the life of Oueddi, once one of al-Qadhdhafi's most dedicated allies, is now in danger.

What is more important than the life of Oueddi is the tragedy north Chadians must endure due to the presence of Libyan occupation forces. We are astonished by the fact that Libya has become a power occupying land which does not belong to it and is trying to tighten its grip on unarmed citizens.

We of course know that the Libyan people, who are suffering within Libya, reject these oppressive policies pursued by al-Qadhdhafi, who is spending Libyan money on these policies and other adventures while the Libyan people face a difficult economic situation noticed by any visitor to Tripoli.

If Libya's name has disappeared from reports on terrorist operations since the violent bombing of Tripoli and Banghazi by U.S. planes last April, does this mean that Libyan violence and al-Qadhdhafi's reckless policies are now intensifying in Chad instead of Europe and America? Does al-Qadhdhafi find no one to deter him?

The Libyan regime's mistakes have grown to the extent they must not be overlooked. If we appeal to the legitimate regime in Chad, led by Hissein Habre, to come to the rescue of the Chadian people in the north and disregard any past differences, we must also appeal to Arab and Islamic states and the international community to take a strong position in support of the Chadian people, who are crying out over the injustice practiced by the Libyan occupation forces.

AL-JUMHURIYAH ON MUBARAK-HUSAYN TALKS, ARAB TIES

JN270723 Cairo AL-JUMHURIYAH in Arabic 24 Nov 86 p 6

[Editorial: "The Meeting of Hope and the Hope for Meeting"]

[Text] Continuous meetings between President Mubarak and King Husayn of Jordan reflect the reality of the warm brotherly relations between the Egyptian and Jordanian peoples--relations which reached this stage of stability on firm grounds and take into account and abide by strategic pan-Arab interests.

The Egyptian-Jordanian relations exist while extreme fragmentation prevails the Arab homeland. The Arab nation is now surrounded by enemies and the Arab interests and causes are in danger of being liquidated and wasted in a manner unprecedented since the second half of the 19th century when the Arab peoples successively fell victim to the tyrannical colonialist forces.

How similar today is to yesterday! The superpowers are using all weapons and methods to control the Arab nation and its resources. The weapons of direct military strikes are now being [word indistinct] against the Arab peoples evading the weapons of economic strangulation. The Palestine question has become threatened, and there is nothing on the horizon which indicates a possible retrieval of the Palestinian people's wasted rights.

Within this context, the importance of continued coordination between President Mubarak and King Husayn becomes clear. The two leaders' meeting comes as a glimmer of light in the darkness of Arab disunity and lack of ties.

If the achievement of Arab security is the ultimate objective, this must be based on respecting the will of the Palestinian people and their sole legitimate leadership, the PLO.

The Mubarak-Husayn meeting will give a new boost to Iraq's steadfast stand against the Iranian aggression, which is being supported by weapons from everywhere, and from brothers and enemies camouflaging as friends.

Finally, we hope that the Jordanian-Egyptian relations would be the sound beginning of the sincere restoration of inter-Arab relations, and for Egypt's return to the Arab world--a return which has been desired for a long time. It is the meeting of hope and the hope for a larger and more expanded meeting comprising all Arab leaders on the genuine path of Arab interests.

UN ENVOY CALLS ON ISRAEL TO STOP SETTLEMENT POLICY

NC220627 Cairo MENA in Arabic 2010 GMT 21 Nov 86

[Excerpts] New York, 21 Nov (MENA)--Egypt today called on Israel to stop its policy of settlement in the occupied Arab territories and to institute measures to build confidence in the West Bank and Gaza instead. Israel was urged to give the Palestinians an opportunity to exercise their right to self-determination in order to convince them of its sincere intentions and to promote efforts for peace in the Middle East.

Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi, Egypt's permanent UN envoy, emphasized that one of the important steps Israel could make in this regard, and thereby improve the situation in the occupied territories, would be to hold new elections that would give the Palestinian people complete freedom to choose mayors for the West Bank and Gaza cities and villages.

In a speech delivered before the UN General Assembly during today's debate on the Palestinian issue, the Egyptian envoy noted that Israel's nearly 20-year occupation of the Palestinian territories in the West Bank and Gaza entails certain legal and international responsibilities which it must recognize and by which it must abide. Israel should also realize that the future of good-neighborliness and stability in the Middle East must be based on reciprocal relations with the Palestinians on all levels.

Ambassador Badawi called on the Arab countries to put aside their differences in view of the negative effects these divisions have on any united Arab front, which is indispensable for a comprehensive and just settlement in the Middle East. He also stressed that current conditions make it incumbent on the Arabs to resubmit and underline the peace option as a strategic Arab choice. Arab countries must intensify their pressure to see that negotiations are begun to achieve a settlement, he added.

The Egyptian envoy issued a warning about the grave situation existing in the occupied territories. He affirmed: These territories face the threat of being swallowed up. We must all work to stop this serious deterioration and undertake efforts to enable the Palestinian people to exercise their legitimate

national rights, foremost of which is the right to self-determination. He also stressed the importance of activating and maintaining the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement, as well as cooperating in accordance with it to secure the fulfillment of the Arab objective to achieve a just settlement for the Palestinian issue.

Ambassador 'Abd al-Halim Badawi said that the settlement which Egypt seeks to achieve in the Middle East is one which will secure a just and comprehensive solution for the Arab-Israeli conflict. This settlement is based on specific principles unanimously supported by the international community. These are the following:

1. Israel's withdrawal from all Arab territories occupied after 5 June 1967; namely, the West Bank, Gaza, and the Golan.
2. Giving the Palestinians an opportunity to exercise their right to self-determination and their right to establish a state on Palestinian territory.
3. The right of all people and countries in the Middle East to live in peace, security, and good-neighborliness.

The Egyptian envoy emphasized his country's belief that an international conference with the participation of all the parties concerned is the principle acceptable means to achieve a settlement in the Middle East. He also noted Egypt's efforts during the past year in support of this belief. He expressed hope that these efforts will ultimately succeed.

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CSO: 4500/32

ARMS DEAL WITH ISRAEL CANCELLED

JN231111 Kuwait AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM in Arabic 21 Nov 86 pp 1, 27

[Text] Cairo--Egyptian presidential sources have told AL-RA'Y AL-'AMM that the Egyptian Government received instructions from the presidential office to abrogate an agreement signed in principle between the Egyptian and Israeli Governments two months ago. Through this agreement Israel would market a number of Egyptian military helicopters, personnel carriers, and field artillery produced by the Egyptian war industries in a number of Asian and African countries, which have diplomatic relations with Israel and buy Israeli arms.

The sources revealed that the presidential instructions to cancel the undeclared agreement scheduled to take effect at the beginning of January came in the wake of news that Israel transported U.S. arms to Iran, as well as old Israeli arms, for which the United States would compensate Israel in return for the release of the U.S. hostages in Lebanon. These instructions also came in anticipation that some Egyptian equipment may reach Iran via Israel and consequently undermine Egyptian-Iraqi relations. The sources indicated that the political leadership stressed to the government not to sign any future agreements with Israel in the armament field and to confine the normalization of Egyptian-Israeli relations to the trade, economic, and scientific fields.

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ABU GHAZALAH DISCUSSES ARMS PROCUREMENT

London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 1-7 Nov 86 p 15

[article: "Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah to AL-TADAMUN: 'We Have Succeeded in Breaking the Eastern Arms Monopoly; We Have Absorbed Western Technology; Were It Not for the Diversification of Arms Sources, We Would Be Captive to Soviet Armaments'"]

[Text] "The Egyptian military has been highly successful in benefiting from a strategy of diversifying arms sources." This was how Field Marshal 'Abd-al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, the Egyptian defense minister, began his exclusive statements to AL-TADAMUN, which accompanied him on a visit to an air base in Upper Egypt during ceremonies marking the air force's reception of the second group of Falcon-16C aircraft.

AL-TADAMUN asked the Egyptian defense minister about the extent of the successes realized by the Egyptian armed forces since the decision to start diversifying arms sources. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah replied: "Suffice it to say that we are today obtaining the kind of aircraft considered technologically the most modern in the field of air weaponry on the world level at the same time as they are being obtained by the North Atlantic Pact, to which it was recently decided to supply them. These are planes on which the American air force depends to a fundamental extent today. Were it not for the strategy of diversifying arms sources, we would still be captive to East Bloc weapons--Soviet, to be exact--even now. If the moral of the story lies in the results, then I would say with all confidence that the diversification of arms sources has opened wide the doors for the Egyptian military to obtain Western arms technology that is radically different in quality from East Block arms technology."

The Egyptian defense minister went on to say: "All sorts of difficulties confronted us in the past because of our connection with the Soviets. From the mid-fifties until the mid-seventies, the Egyptian armed forces basically relied on Soviet weapons in a variety of fields. Frequently, we were unable to carry out maintenance and repair operations on these weapons. Even when our relations with the Soviets are characterized by a special closeness, we used to suffer crises involving the spare parts needed for these weapons as a result of the Soviets' slowness in supplying the parts. This caused the Egyptian political leadership to look for a means of breaking the arms monopoly,

of opening up to the world, both East and West, and of obtaining the best kinds of weapons from all parts of the world, after large quantities of Soviet arms in our possession had become unfit for use in the wake of the deterioration of Egyptian-Soviet relations. There was thus a pressing need to issue the decision to diversify weapons sources. Through this decision, we have succeeded in rebuilding the arsenal of the Egyptian armed forces at the highest level. We have always been able to contract for the purchase of what is most modern in the field of armaments. Furthermore, our soldiers have succeeded in absorbing Western armaments technology in record time. Most recently, they have mastered the technology of the Falcon aircraft of all types and have been able to manage and operate the maintenance units and depots for the aircraft that have been established at the Egyptian air force bases where the American Falcon aircraft have been put into service. They have done this in a way that astonished the American military experts, who have not withheld from them the necessary training."

Replying to AL-TADAMUN's question about the fate of the Soviet weapons currently in the hands of the Egyptian armed forces, the Egyptian defense minister said: "Obviously, we have not been able to dispense with them completely, or else we would be like one who throws his money into the sea. In some cases, we have been able to introduce important and essential modifications that have increased the power and battlefield efficiency of the weapons, making use of Egyptian military factories. At other times, we have combined and harmonized Eastern and Western technologies, as happened, for example, when we equipped Soviet-made SAM-2 and SAM-3 rockets with an advanced Western radar system to increase their target-tracking ability and their accuracy. On other occasions, we have made use of Eastern expertise--naturally, not from the Soviet Union--to obtain substitutes for spare parts that we cannot manufacture in Egypt. They supplied us, and we put the Soviet equipment and weapons into operation. Through maintenance, we have succeeded in extending their life expectancy. Of course, we use much of this Soviet weaponry and equipment only for training purposes. If the need arose, we would not move it onto the battlefield, because we have advanced Western weapons technology obtained from the United States, Britain, France, and other Western countries that produce superior weapons."

The Egyptian defense minister went on to say: "We still have Soviet-made MiG-17 aircraft in service in the Egyptian air force. But their missions are limited, since we are not overloading the equipment--especially equipment for which spare parts are scarce, not to mention the fact that the equipment has outlived its life expectancy."

AL-TADAMUN asked the Egyptian defense minister whether he was biased against Soviet or Eastern armaments in general and whether there was an explanation for his partiality toward Western weapons. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah answered: "I am partial only toward Egypt. The welfare of this country demands that I, as a military man, put aside any other considerations and fix my attention on the adequacy of equipment and its success in performing its functions. On this basis, I think Western weapons are technologically superior

to Eastern ones. Take, for example, the F-16 aircraft we recently obtained: In any of them, we can determine the nature of a malfunction, diagnose it exactly, and locate it by means of the maintenance study specific to the aircraft. When, for example, damage occurs in the engine, we are not forced to replace the engine with another; advanced Western technology allows us to replace only the damaged part in the engine body with another from the spare parts that are provided and that we obtain in record time, so that the engine can return again to operation. With the Soviet airplanes, we used to send the entire malfunctioning engine to the Soviet Union, since its parts were not repairable. Then we would wait for months on end until the Soviets were kind enough to send us another new engine. Perhaps I have succeeded in giving the picture and conveying what makes me enthusiastic about Western weapons technology and cool to East Bloc weapons. This does not bar the acquisition of Soviet weapons if they are produced in a way that makes their maintenance easy to carry out and are not overburdening to the defense budgets of a developing country such as Egypt that is looking for the most modern technology in the arms field in order to carry out its role of safeguarding and defending the homeland, in addition to its role in the region as a whole, which requires that the armed forces be at the highest level of armament and training."

In reply to a question about reports that the size of military expenditure in Egypt exceeds the size of military expenditure in Israel by 5 percent, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said: "These are mere speculations with no basis in truth. They are part of the attack that some Egyptian opposition parties are launching against us concerning the fact that military expenditures at the present time, a time of peace, exceed what they were during the 1973 October War. My reply to them is that the Egyptian armed forces must remain strong--in war or in peace. We must go beyond the stage of the October War and not remain captives to it. The Egyptian armed forces have today become many times more capable than they were during the October War. The missions entrusted to these forces require us not to stint the Egyptian army in funding. This army must remain the most powerful and capable of Middle Eastern armies. If we retreat even momentarily from the plans for training and arming the Egyptian armed forces, enemies lying in wait for us will seize the opportunity. Egypt is targeted; it must always remain strong."

Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah concluded his statements to AL-TADAMUN by saying: "By way of example, there is a plan to achieve the proliferation of our air bases at a superior rate throughout the various parts of Egypt. It requires a great deal of effort and money to build an air base, but it is necessary so that our arm may remain strong and able to assert our national sovereignty--and so that anyone who has ambitions against Egypt will realize that he will burn up in the skies of Egypt before he lands on its soil."

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CSO: 4504/56

AL-AHALI ON MUSLIM CONFERENCE IN USSR

PM191449 Cairo AL-AHALI in Arabic 12 Nov 86 p 8

[Article by Mustafa 'Asi: "What Does the Meeting of Muslim 'Ulama' in the Soviet Union Mean?"]

[Text] More than 600 Muslim 'ulama' and thinkers have met in Baku in response to an invitation from the Soviet Union's Muslims to discuss the cause of peace.

Right from the start, the participants showed that they were keen for the conference to be a success and keen to lead it to its noble objective, which is to show the true Islamic stand on the need to achieve just peace for all mankind in fulfillment of the words of almighty God: Ye who believe, enter into peace wholeheartedly. [Koranic verse]

The discussions were marked by seriousness, frankness, and understanding of the nature of the age and its problems and of the importance of the Muslims' role in realizing peace.

The participants clearly presented their ideas and views on the issues of peace and war at the local and international levels. These can be summarized in three issues:

1. Halting and putting an end to nuclear armament and condemning star wars and the militarization of space in accordance with the words of almighty God: Do not evil nor mischief on the earth. [Koranic verse]

2. International cooperation and peaceful coexistence under a permanent and just peace between peoples in accordance with the words of almighty God: We made you into nations and tribes so that you might know each other. [Koranic verse]

3. Supporting liberation movements and the right to self-determination and ending local wars and disputes by peaceful means.

Everybody advocated destroying nuclear weapons and ending star wars and the militarization of space because the continuation of this aggressive approach by the evil powers threatens our beautiful planet with destruction and extinction.

Everybody also demanded that peace not be achieved at the expense of small nations but peace be based on justice, freedom, and equal opportunity for all.

The conference unanimously condemned imperialism, Zionism, and racism and stressed the need for Israel's withdrawal from the Arab and Palestinian territories and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state on Palestinian national soil and for Israel's unconditional withdrawal from southern Lebanon.

All the participants stressed the need to end local wars and regional conflicts, especially that between Iran and Iraq, and the need to apply the teachings of true Islam to all existing disputes and conflicts between the leaders and rulers of Arab and Islamic countries.

Some participants raised the problem of Afghanistan. The Soviet brothers in one of the committees responded by pointing to the need to understand the situation in Afghanistan, referring to the readiness of the Soviet forces to withdraw at an early stage. They said that the Soviets make no conditions except those required by the Afghan revolutionary forces, which are the need to stop foreign intervention by the imperialist powers and Pakistani reaction. The first Soviet Army battalion was actually withdrawn after the end of the conference.

The conference also supported the peaceful efforts and initiatives of many organizations, social movements and heads of several states.

The conference called upon both the Soviet Union and the United States and other nuclear countries to eliminate nuclear weapons, to stop exorbitant arms expenditure, and to allocate the funds squandered in this field to the development, prosperity, and progress of the peoples, especially poor peoples.

Finally the conference issued an appeal to all parliaments, governments, and the United Nations for effective participation in calling for and promoting the achievement of comprehensive and just peace for all peoples.

The conference, as a continuation and affirmation of its call for peace among peoples, groups, organizations and governments at the international level, decided to form a permanent secretariat including among its members many eminent figures in the Islamic and Arab worlds and the Soviet Union. Its task is to follow up the work of the conference and prepare for the next conference in order to emphasize the role of Muslims in making and maintaining international peace and justice.

The conference was held in an atmosphere of friendliness and hospitality, and all the delegations were welcomed by the religious administrations and the political, governmental, and media establishments, both at the level of the central Soviet Government and at that of the governments and organizations of the Islamic Republics of Azerbaijan, Baku, Uzbekistan, Tashkent, and Samarkand.

All the delegations enjoyed the appreciation, respect, and hospitality of the Soviet people, particularly the Muslims, wherever the delegates stayed.

In short, the holding of the Islamic conference in Baku on the Caspian Sea at this stage--during which danger threatens the life of peaceful people and which does not contribute to cooling down local wars and extinguishing fires raging between peoples and groups, behind which lie the greed of arms dealers and the arrogance of imperialist military establishments in the imperialist, racist, and exploiter world--and the fact that the conference succeeded in these circumstances are a clear indication of the good intentions of the good and noble powers which call for peace and security for mankind, in the forefront of which are the Muslim 'ulama' and their peoples, who are struggling for a better life under a genuine and just peace that will secure freedom and prosperity for the oppressed on earth.

In the confrontation with the powers of injustice, evil, and exploitation, the holding of a conference with such varied political and geographical affiliations and unity of objectives is in itself an answer to Zionist, imperialist, and reactionary allegations. We have seen with our own eyes the conditions of Muslims in the Soviet Union, the discussion of which requires another article.

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CSO: 4500/32

'ABD AL-MAJID ON OUTCOME OF TRIP TO ITALY

NC301228 Cairo MENA in Arabic 1025 GMT 30 Nov 86

[Text] Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA)--After his meeting today with President Husni Mubarak, Dr 'Isamat 'Abd al-Majid, deputy prime minister and foreign minister, said he had presented a full report to the president on his recent consultations in Italy and their contribution to strengthening Egyptian-Italian relations. He added: I passed along messages to President Mubarak from Italian President Cossiga and Prime Minister Craxi.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid noted that the messages cover bilateral ties, relations among the Mediterranean states, and the Middle East question.

In addition, the minister pointed out that Italy had offered a \$93 million grant, while its value under previous agreements had been only \$45 million. It also extended a soft loan worth \$150 million, up from an original figure of \$105 million. He then explained that it was given on very easy terms. The loan is to be repaid in 10 years at 1.5 percent interest with a 10-year grace period.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said there is considerable scope for cooperation with Italy. The Italian Government's responsiveness confirms its confidence, as a member of the European Community, in Egypt's leaders. It also reflects Italy's desire to support our economy.

Dr 'Abd al-Majid said that Egypt appreciates this gesture by Italian officials.

/9738

CSO: 4500/34

GOVERNMENT STAND ON SUBSIDY ISSUE CRITICIZED

Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 21 Oct 86 p 8

[Article by Fu'ad Nushi: "Mr President, the Parties Have Concluded Their Discussion of the Subsidy Problem"]

[Text] I was surprised when the Egyptian president said that the subsidy problem was still being discussed by the parties, that there would be no price increase in December, and that it was all just a rumor.

The reason I was surprised is that the National Committee, which comprised representatives of the ruling National Party and the five opposition parties, had held seven meetings at the National Party headquarters. On 6 July 1986 (over three months ago), the committee published a report stating that total subsidy had dropped during the past three months from 2.058 billion Egyptian pounds to 1.996 billion Egyptian pounds and further to 1.746 billion pounds during the current fiscal year (1986-1987).

Some of the meetings were attended in part by the secretary general of the ruling party and by heads of some opposition parties. We learned that the discussion had been recorded by cassette recorders as well as by those who record the proceedings of such meetings and forward their reports promptly to the president who is also chief of the National Party.

Two weeks later, the ruling party general convention was held, at which the Economic Committee submitted a detailed study on subsidy. In it the committee alluded to views held by the opposition parties.

On behalf of the Labor Party I requested that the General Federation of Egyptian Workers and other labor unions be asked to voice their views about the subsidy problem which affects the lives of 50 million Egyptians.

I also requested that the report of the National Committee be broadcast on radio and television, especially since Prime Minister Dr Ali Lutfi had already broadcast his opinion which contradicted ours and so the people could follow this problem on which we spent so much time trying to reach an agreeable formula for its solution.

We had hoped that this experiment of studying national issues and reaching common ground on solutions would be a successful one. What happened was just the opposite.

The prices of many items skyrocketed after state subsidy for them had been lifted. Many other items, seen by many as essential, just disappeared. These included prescription drugs and subsidized soap. The latter was replaced by "economy soap", "tourist soap" and imported soap at double the subsidized price. Some drug companies even changed the packaging and were thus able to triple even quadruple the original price.

The loaf of bread selling for 5 piasters is now available everywhere. Bakeries can no longer find the subsidized flour with which to make the subsidized loaf selling for only 2 piasters.

Once again the International Monetary Fund was applying pressure and reiterating its request that subsidies be lifted and prices be raised as a remedy for the economic problem. It was the IMF formula that triggered the food riots of January 1977 in Egypt and similar incidents in Tunisia, Morocco and other countries in which food riots erupted as a result of these governments' implementation of the IMF formula.

Following the arrival in Egypt of the latest IMF team this month, there was talk again about the need to lift the state subsidy for certain commodities so that the IMF could approve another loan for Egypt and cooperate with our government in convincing creditor countries to reschedule outstanding loans.

As soon as there was now a good supply of bread many citizens rushed out and bought quantities that far exceeded their actual needs. They hoarded them in anticipation of price hikes. Wholesalers hastily tucked away a number of items to sell them later at a higher price. This aggravated problems caused by the disappearance from the market of basic food items so vital to the people.

I know that Dr Ali Lutfi and some cabinet ministers subscribe to the capitalistic solutions advanced by the IMF and the World Bank. These are international institutions influenced by capitalistic thinking since they are under American and Zionist domination. I don't blame them for serving the best interests of a clique of businessmen dominating most of the specialized committee of the ruling National Party. For they all have common interests, and they all believe in the capitalist system. I don't want to quote again article No 4 of the Egyptian Constitution which states: "The economic foundation of the Arab Republic of Egypt is a democratic, socialist system based on sufficiency and justice in order to prevent exploitation and to narrow the gap between incomes."

I know that in the government and the ruling National Party there are those who try to set up a "capitalistic gang" reminiscent of that which ruled Egypt prior to the July 1952 Revolution and which the revolution was launched to purge Egypt of its evils and corruption.

Is Egypt now on the verge of a new revolution to save it from the new gang?

I would like the present to see the report submitted by the parties' committee concerning the subsidy problem. The report is free of domestic jargon and unnecessary complexities and theories.

The report states in its front page that three parties support the policy of subsidizing basic commodities. The three parties are: the Socialist Labor Party, al-Wafd Party and the Unionist Party. On the other hand, the ruling National Party, backed by the Liberal Party and the Ummah Party stress the need to switch to monetary subsidies.

Has the government adopted either viewstand?

13257/5915

CSO: 4504/48

NASIRITE PARTY REPRESENTATIVE ATTACKS PARTIES' LAW

Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Oct 86 p 1

[Article by Muhammad 'Abd-al-Quddus: "The Interior Ministry Opposes the Nasirites and the Political Leadership Imposes Silence"]

[Text] The Nasirite party offices believe that the Interior Ministry is the authority responsible for the prosecution investigation regarding the movements of their party whose establishment procedures they are completing. Communications with all the political authorities that could end the crisis reasonably have been made. But the efforts ended in failure and tension prevails in all the political offices, because of this new escalation by the Interior Ministry in its confrontation with the various parties and movements.

AL-SHA'B has learned that Farid 'Abd-al-Hakim, representative of the Nasirite Arab Socialist party founders, argued the futility of the Parties' Law before the Supreme State Security Agency. The agency had conducted a hearing with him last Saturday for 4 hours on a charge that the Nasirite party was pursuing political activities without a license from the parties' committee, such as its holding of political conferences and its publishing of non-periodic publications that the establishing of the party did not require.

Farid 'Abd-al-Hakim concentrated his statements on the fact that the Parties' Law that throws obstacles in the way of the right of the political powers to participate in public life, is considered an overwhelming restriction to freedom and democracy. In its phrases and writing it is amusing where it should be serious, since it is unacceptable intellectually or logically that the establishment of a party opposed to the ruling party should come to a stop. Furthermore, the judiciary ruled, unconstitutionally, that some of the phrases of this odious law, such as the famous ruling of the State Council as to the unconstitutionality of the texts decreeing that those who oppose Camp David cannot establish a political party.

The other point that the Nasirite Party representative concentrated on was that any group has the right to form its party naturally, not through artificial means. That necessitates inviting the founders, their meeting, their arguing, and the effort to convince others to join the party. The Nasirite Party was recently holding successful, popular conferences, among them a conference in al-Mansurah and another in Suez that caused the authority to summon the founders' representative and to interrogate him.

CITIZENS CRITICIZE PRIVATE UNIVERSITY CONCEPT

Cairo AL-SHA'B in Arabic 28 Oct 86 p 9

[Article by Subhi Shabanah: "No, to the Repeal of Free Education; the Egyptian Man on the Street Rejects the Private University"]

[Text] The call to establish the private university is not a product of today; rather it is an old call tied to the growth of the capitalist class during the seventies, that capitalism that feeds on the Egyptian economy and then extends its teats abroad so that through this alien class, international capitalism and Zionism can suck the blood of the Egyptian people.

The call for the private university is tied to the return of the Wafd Party to Egyptian political life in 1977. Its return was an expression of the strong growth of capitalism and the changes it used to enter Egyptian society. The call for the private university weakened during a period of time after the Wafd disbanded. Then it returned to dominate on its own today, being strengthened by the party's return even though the party is pretending to be silent.

Today all the notables and citizens are calling for opposition and resistance to this mockery, and for thwarting the establishment of this mercenary university that will not be better than the foreign banks. These banks have destroyed Egypt's economy, and this university will proceed to destroy and ruin the Egyptian mind.

Engineer Yahya Zakariya Fahim says, "The establishment of the private university will return education to the class system once more. This is considered a retreat from the gains the people have made in the last period and from the natural progress of human life. This is also seen as a violation of the pure principle that the constitution specifies, the principle of free education."

Ibrahim Hashim of the al-Nasr Pharmaceuticals Company says, "The private university will be for the class that is materially able, but educationally unqualified. We don't want to mock education."

Engineer 'Ashur 'Abd-al-Latif Zayid says, "The question to ask is: Has education become something that cannot be sold except to the wealthy? If we believed that education is a right guaranteed to all, like water and air, then with the establishment of this university this right would be destroyed."

Mustafa Muhammad Shaban^{ah}, an employee of the Arab Contractors [Company] says, "This university will result in a decline in the level of secondary education because of a lack of competition to insure that the student will enroll in the university regardless of the total. This university will deepen the class system in its worst form causing a broad segment of society to lose its loyalty, to experience frustration and lack of belonging."

Nasir al-Jabiri Salama, an accountant at the Ministry of Finance says, "This university will be a complete failure because the scientific capabilities of those who enroll in it will not qualify them to study the modern scientific specialties that the private university proposes. It will result in the dissatisfaction of state university students because they have to study and obtain the highest grades while the sons of the wealthy enter the best colleges with their money."

Muhammad Kamal Ibrahim, a student at al-Zaqaziq University says, "The establishment of the private university will deprive public universities of their respect as a result of the students' feelings of frustration and hopelessness. They will feel that they are getting their education in backward universities."

Sa'd al-Shurbaji, a lawyer, said, "Those who call for the establishment of the private university want to open the door of higher education to a specific group from the classes of the open door policy. This will result in the elimination of free education and will make the situation of public universities worse than it is now. It is necessary to work toward improving education and instruction at established universities rather than boasting the establishment of private universities."

Muhammad Mahmud Saqr, an accountant in the Ministry of Finance: "The establishment of the private university will destroy the pure principles in society including the principle of equal opportunity and equality, and I ask: If the aim in establishing the technology university is the lack of modern scientific departments that keep up with progress, we say that those who enroll in this university are those who obtained low scores that do not qualify them to study these types of modern sciences."

If the aim is our universities' inability to absorb those who graduate from high school, I say that most of the university graduates are suffering from official and hidden unemployment. The solution may be in directing the student toward technical education after the completion of basic education.

Ahmad Muhammad 'Abd-al-Wahid, a student at the Foreign Trade College said, "The idea of the private university will bring us back to the era of the class system. Furthermore, everything will be permitted in it as long as the basis is material power. Since the student entered through his money, he will also receive passing grades and the university will produce an ignorant graduate. This will result in the deterioration of education in general."

Isma'il Nabil Isma'il, president of the students' union at the College of Economics and Political Science said, "We are against the private university because its disadvantages are greater than its advantages. Likewise it is not necessary to create an expensive educational body which only the powerful

could enter. This is what results in the deepening of the class system. The private university, when it is established, will be an investment project whose goal is profit, not the raising of the level of education. It will be in the long term a university of pressure groups who are essentially capitalists. In addition, this university will not solve the problems of education."

Therefore, what is necessary is to follow policies whose goal is to confront the shortcomings of free education not to abolish or combat it. We would like education policy to remain in the hands of the state and not to be dominated by individuals.

Hisham Rashad, deputy secretary of the student union of Cairo University's College of Literature said, "The establishment of the private university meant the elimination of free education. We have 13 universities that suffer from severe deterioration in capabilities. The government must use whatever surplus funds it has to reform these universities."

Ahmad Hanafi Muhammad, secretary of the sports committee at Cairo University's College of Literature: "If some are financially capable, there is no objection to their enrollment into existing universities according to financial requirements that would not apply to those who are not financially capable provided that we do not violate the principle of equal opportunity."

Suhayr Raja'i, a female graduate student at Cairo University's College of Literature said, "The reason for the increase in students that could not enroll in universities and institutes is the state that wanted to impose a private university on the people. We do not need more degree holders when there is a surplus suffering from idleness. In my opinion this [private] university would give to its graduates a diploma of ignorance and it would be for the class of the open door policy that aims to consolidate its position and to dominate education."

Yahya 'Uthman 'Abd-al-Ghani, in the General Survey Agency said, "This university will attract the corps of teachers in the public universities. This will increasingly weaken the existing public universities. I ask where is the role of the National Education Council in all this, and why haven't we heard a sound from it?"

Aside from the fact that this university will be surrounded by the type of social groups that we can do without be it now or in the future, we don't need more university graduates.

[Box, p 9]

Private Universities Sell Diplomas

Dr Ibrahim Muharram, professor at the Agriculture College at 'Ayn Shams University says, "The underlying reason for the current call for the private university is an attempt to change the social standard that society has accepted to educate its sons. This standard is the scientific capability of the student and we cannot agree to replace the standard of educational capability with financial capability. Those open door policy supporters who

are calling for it subscribe to the policy of fait accompli. In other words, some of the sons graduated from high school with test scores that did not qualify them to enter existing universities. Their families are threatened with having to send them abroad for education. The threat comes from the fact that free currency would have to be smuggled to pay for this education and on fait accompli. The primary rejection of the idea of a private university is based on the view that any fait accompli can be accepted or rejected on the basis of its harmony with existing social standards, etc."

I remind those who call for the establishment of the private university of what they know well concerning the sale of doctorate and masters degrees to students of developing countries attending private universities in the United States. I also remind them of the results of the exams given by doctors associations in the United States before granting professional licenses [these results] confirm the weakness of the educational level of private university graduates. If some claim that the private university will be built from contributions, charitable donations, the surplus of private associations and companies, I ask immediately where are those charitable individuals and why don't they contribute to the public universities?

13013/5915

CSO: 4504/51

BRIEFS

SENEGALESE OFFICIAL ARRIVES--Cairo, 30 Nov (MENA)--Leopold Senghor, former Senegalese president and now chairman of the League of African Socialist Parties, arrived in Cairo this evening. During his visit, he will attend the league's congress scheduled to begin tomorrow, Monday, and expected to last for three days. In an arrival statement, the former Senegalese president said that the African continent is currently facing grave political and economic problems. The African states must work together and cooperate in order to confront and resolve these issues. Dr Butrus Ghali, minister of state for foreign affairs, received the African guest at the airport. The fact that this congress is being held in Cairo, Ghali noted, affirms that Egypt's interest in promoting its relations with African countries is not confined to a political level but exists at the party level as well. He said that the conference will discuss the problems which Cairo faces in achieving cooperation among the various African parties. [Text] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1930 GMT 30 Nov 86 NC] /9738

FIELD MARSHAL VISITS FRANCE--Paris, 28 Nov (MENA)--French Defense Minister Andre Giraud today received Field Marshal 'Abd al-Halim Abu Ghazalah, deputy prime minister and minister of defense and war production, who is currently visiting Paris on his way home from Washington. The meeting, which lasted 1½ hours, was attended by Dr Samir Safwat, Egyptian ambassador to France, and Major General Salah Taha, Egyptian military counselor in Paris. In a statement following the meeting, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah said the purpose of his meeting with the French defense minister was to get acquainted with a friend of Egypt. It also came within the framework of the excellent relations between our two countries, he added, saying that nothing specific was discussed during the session, only Egyptian-French cooperation in general. Commenting on his visit to Washington, Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah emphasized that the results of the visit were excellent. Field Marshal Abu Ghazalah will leave Paris tomorrow, Saturday, for Cairo after a 2-day visit to the French capital. [Text] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 1900 GMT 28 Nov 86 NC] /9738

ELECTRICITY AGREEMENT WITH FRG--Cairo, 25 Nov (MENA)--Egypt and West Germany signed here today an agreement for joint technical cooperation in the field of setting up power-generating stations. Chairman of the Egypt Electricity Authority Dr 'Imad al-Sharqawi signed for Egypt, while the representative of the executing companies signed for Germany. Electricity and Energy

Minister Mahir Abazah and the West German ambassador here attended the signature ceremony. Following the signing, Abazah said that under the agreement, the German group implements the fourth unit annexed to the Suez power station with a capacity of 325,000 kilowatts per hour. It will be operated within 33 months. [Excerpt] [Cairo MENA in English 1049 GMT 25 Nov 86 NC] /9738

AGREEMENT WITH DENMARK--Cairo, 22 Nov (MENA)--Egypt and Denmark have signed a technical cooperation agreement by which Denmark will supply Egypt with 200 km of high-tension electric cable to be used to carry electric power to the North Sinai and South Sinai Governorates. Some of the cable will be used for the expansion requirements of the new Damietta port. Mahir Abazah, Egyptian minister of electricity and energy, has stated that the agreement will be financed by a government loan and exporters' credit facilities amounting to \$15 million, to be repaid in 25 years with a grace period of 7 years. He added that agreement has also been reached with the Danish Government to appropriate \$7 million of a total loan of \$30 million to supply cable and renovate the electric network of the Alexandria Governorate. [Summary] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 0954 GMT 22 Nov 86 NC] /9738

U.S. STAND 'INSULT' -- Cairo, 21 Nov (MENA)--According to the AL-JUMHURIYAH newspaper, the secret U.S.-Iranian contacts and the sale of U.S. weapons to Iran reveal the fact that it is interests that ultimately direct the policies of the major powers with regard to areas of conflict in which Third World countries are involved. In the editorial which will appear in its Saturday edition, the paper says that the United States would not have taken this step if it had not been confident about Arab impotence and the paucity of expected Arab reaction to such a stand, which only helps to continue tension in the region and move it away from any real peace. Concluding its editorial, AL-JUMHURIYAH notes that a unified Arab stand capable of taking the initiative toward achieving a real solution for the current crisis in the area is the only true response to this insult by the United States against all the peoples of the region. [Text] [Cairo MENA in Arabic 2210 GMT 21 Nov 86 NC] /9738

ISLAMIC STATE SUPPORTS SLP--AL-DUSTUR can confirm that the deputy chairman of the opposition Labor Party in Egypt, Mr al-Damirdash al-'Uqali, recently received the second installment of the financial aid that an Islamic state has extended to him. The available information says that this aid was transferred by a London company belonging to the same state into the private Swiss bank account of al-'Uqali to cover the expenses of the religious wing of the Labor Party. As is well known, Shaykh Muhammad al-Ghazali's participation in the Fourth Conference on Islamic Thought held in Tehran last February was suggested by al-Damirdash al-'Uqali as a response to the favor performed by those who had placed his name on the list of "People of the Prophet's Household" at the beginning of the current year. [Text] [London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Nov 86 p 3] 12937/12851

CSO: 4504/56

MAURITANIA

EXPLOITATION OF RESOURCES, INTERNATIONAL AID DISCUSSED

Frankfurt FRANKFURTER ZEITUNG/BLICK DURCH DIE WIRTSCHAFT in German 2 Oct 86
p 2

[Article by W. An.: "Mauritania Continues Her Dependence Upon International Assistance--Several Countries, the FRG Among Them, Are Participating in the Realization of Development Projects"]

[Text] Frankfurt--The economic development of the desert country Mauritania, where agriculture can be pursued only in the south, north of the Senegal river, is taking place at present within the framework of a reconstruction program (1985-1988). Capital spending in the amount of \$700 million is slated for this, \$470 of which are to go to state and public funds. The World Bank and the IMF have expressed their agreement with the rehabilitation program and support the economic policies of the government.

In December 1985, the World Bank granted a loan in the amount of \$20 million for rehabilitation project of the mining company Societe Nationale Industrielle et Miniere (SNIM), Nouadhibou. Also participating in the financing of the project, the total investments for which are stated to be \$92.2 million, are the Saudi Fund for Development; the Abu Dhabi Fund for Arab Economic Development (ADFAED); the French national Caisse Centrale de Cooperation Economique (CCCE), Paris, and the Japanese development institute OECF. Object of the rehabilitation project is the improvement of productive capacities, reduction of production cost and streamlining of SNIM management. For this purpose, machines, equipment, tools, spare parts, and vehicles must be acquired and process engineering services procured. Skilled personnel must also be trained.

The SNIM is operating iron ore mines in the north of the country. Since the deposit in the Zouerate area will be depleted by 1990, another one was developed with international assistance in the area of the "Guelbs," about 25 kilometers from Zouerate. Here the iron-content is only in the range of 38 percent as compared to 65 percent in the Zouerate deposit, necessitating the construction of a concentrating facility. The new iron ore mine in the area of the Guelbs--this Arabic word means an isolated elevation in a plain--was officially dedicated in the summer of 1984. In 1985, 1 million metric tons were already mined here. At present, total annual output amounts to (in round figures) 10.5 million metric tons of iron ore. By 1988 production of the new

iron ore mine is to increase to 6 million metric tons annually, to be doubled later. Negotiations took place recently with the World Bank and the Kuwait Fund for Arab Economic Development (KFAED) on the restoration of the roughly 650-kilometer-long railroad line to the loading port Nouadhibou.

The Societe Arabe Miniere de l'Inchiri (Samin), founded in mid-February 1980, and whose stockholders are the Mauritania government (37.5 percent) as well as the Arab Mining Co., Iraq and Libya, is to resume operation of the copper mine near Akjoujt. The plan is for an annual capacity of 105,000 metric tons of copper ore concentrate. In the spring of 1985 the German Kloeckner group in conjunction with a subsidiary of the large French construction firm Spie-Batignolles, Paris, received the order to build a 113-kilometer-long canal including pumping stations for the water supply to the copper mine. Exploration efforts to develop a phosphate deposit near Bofal-Loubeiro are being continued.

The second asset of the Mauritanian economy is the fishing industry. The coastal waters of Mauritania are one of the most abundant fishing grounds in the world due to the cold upwelling waters of the Canary stream. It is estimated that a total of 800,000 to 1 million metric tons of fish could be caught there annually. In 1985, Mauritania exported roughly 272,000 metric tons of fish and fish products, valued at \$224 million. In 1979 it had only been 14,600 metric tons for \$8 million. Since 1983, the export of fish and fish products has reached the export value of iron ore. For 1985, the share of iron ore in the Mauritania export is quoted with 50.3 percent and that of fish with 49.2 percent. The British Crown Agents, London, did a recent comprehensive study on the future development of the fishing industry, which was financed by the previously mentioned KFAED and the World Bank. The British consulting firm Livesey & Henderson, Guildford (Surrey) was also included in the associated development of the port.

Other capital spending has been planned for the Mauritanian fishing industry. The Societe Algero-Mauritanienne des Peches (Almap) has projected the construction of a fish-processing factory with a daily capacity of 50 metric tons, cold storage with a storage volume of 1,400 metric tons of fish and 60 metric tons of block ice, a block ice operation (10 metric tons daily), 2 deep-freeze tunnels (daily capacity 40 metric tons) plus a repair shop. Additional plans are for the acquisition of 6 fishing boats with block ice cooling (100 gross registered tons each) and 5 fishing boats with freezers (280 gross registered tons each). In the spring of 1986, the Mauritanian Fonds National de Developpement (FND), Nouakchott, called for international bids for the supply of 10 ocean-going stern trawlers (270 gross registered tons) with freezer equipment. These fishing vessels are to be used by Mauritanian ship owners. At the turn of the year 1985-86, Abu Dhabi and Mauritania founded a fishery with capital of \$20 million, in which both partners have a share of 50 percent each.

[passage missing from original] which belongs to the Organisation pour la Mise en Valeur du Fleuve Senegal (OMVS), profits from the construction of two large dams in the Senegal basin. Near the mouth of the Senegal, the Diama Dam has

been built from which a useful area of 5,000 hectares can be artificially irrigated in Mauritania. The completion of the large retaining dam of Manantali in Mali is anticipated for 1988, which will make possible a further expansion of arable land.

The FRG supports the development of Mauritanian agriculture. Within the framework of financial cooperation it granted for the 2-year period 1985-86 capital aid in the amount of DM15 million, DM10 million of which are slated for the irrigation project Boghe. The balance is earmarked for general aid for goods. In addition, a DM17 million technical aid was granted. Prior to that, Mauritania in 1983 had been promised a contribution of DM27 million and in 1979 of DM26 million for the irrigation project Boghe. The FRG also granted in 1981 a capital aid in the amount of DM16 million for the irrigation project Gorgol, which was also partially financed by the EC. Another German capital aid of DM4.5 million was anticipated for this project in June 1986.

The International Development Association (IDA) of the World Bank group backs the economic development of Mauritania in various significant sectors. In the beginning of February 1986 it granted a credit of \$7.6 million for partial financing of the second Mauritanian livestock development project. This was preceded by three credits in March 1985. The first, amounting to \$7.5 million, was for the construction of small-scale irrigation systems, the second of \$5.25 million for the support of industry and trade and the third of \$16.4 million for technical aid and the streamlining of state enterprises. In April 1984, the International Finance Corp. (IFC) of the World Bank group participated in a capital-spending project of the food concern Societe Mauritanienne d'Industrie Alimentaire (Somia) S.A.

The Europaeische Investitionsbank (EIB), Luxemburg, granted in April 1985--for a reconstruction project of the waterworks and power supply company Societe Nationale d'Eau et d'Electricite (Sonelec)--a loan of 7 million Ecu (1 Ecu corresponds to about DM2.15). Both the electric power supply network and the water supply network of the port city of Nouadhibou are slated for restoration, with total cost estimated at 15.8 million Ecu. The project is to be completed by the end of 1987. The consortium of the French national Electricite de France (EdF) and the Compagnie Generale des Eaux (CGE) is charged with the consulting work. In July 1985, the European Development Fund granted an allowance for the construction of a vocational training center for the Marine and in May 1986 another one for the maintenance of hospital equipment. A special loan for landing-bridge equipment (wharf) in Nouakchott for 1.6 million Ecu had been approved previously in July 1984.

The African Development Fund, Abidjan (Ivory Coast), participated in December 1985 with a credit of 7.54 million theoretic units (1 theoretic unit corresponds to approximately \$1.14) in the restoration and expansion of the water-supply and drainage systems in Nouakchott. In the summer of 1986 it also granted a credit of \$8 million for partial financing of the previously mentioned second Mauritanian livestock development project which requires capital spending totalling \$24 million. The Opec Fund for International Development also participated in the financing of this project.

Italy recently approved, via the Fondo Ayudi Italiani (FAI), an amount of roughly \$22.7 million to finance emergency measures against drought and the advance of the desert. It is anticipated that at the end of 1986 a new port will have been completed several kilometers from Nouakchott, which was built by the People's Republic of China. The port, which is called "port de l'amitie" (port of friendship), requires capital spending of roughly \$150 million. It will feature a 585-meter-long dock with three moorings for ships in the order of magnitude of 10,000 to 15,000 metric tons. In November 1985, five Algerian firms started work on the reopening of the crude oil refinery in Nouakchott, with work to be completed by the end of 1986. The crude oil refinery shall then have a throughput capacity of 1 million metric tons per year.

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PRIME MINISTER AL-MAHDI: SEPTEMBER LAWS WILL BE ABOLISHED

London AL-DUSTUR in Arabic 3 Nov 86 pp 21-22

[Interview with Prime Minister al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, by Mu'awiyah Hasan Yasin: "No Sudanese Mediation Between Baghdad and Tehran"; London, date not given]

[Text] When Mr al-Sadiq al-Mahdi, the prime minister of the Sudan, graciously allotted AL-DUSTUR time to conduct this interview, his agenda was extremely busy. After a long workday filled with more than five meetings, two field visits, and a reception at the Sudanese embassy in London, he went up to the office of the Sudanese ambassador to receive the representative of AL-DUSTUR just before midnight.

As difficult as it was for us to catch a few minutes of the Sudanese prime minister's time, the job of selecting the questions was even more difficult. Since Mr al-Sadiq al-Mahdi had answered dozens of questions from Arab and Western journalists during the time of his recent Western tour--New York, Ankara, and London--AL-DUSTUR posed its questions to the Sudanese prime minister to summarize aspects that had been overlooked in most of the news interviews he has given.

No Mediation

[Question] It has been sometimes reported that there has been Sudanese mediation between Iraq and Iran aimed at stopping the war, which has now entered its 7th year without any resolution on the horizon. What is the impact of this effort on your country's relations with Iraq, and to what extent can this mediation be evaluated?

[Answer] What I believe to be true is that the Sudan has decided that its relations with the Islamic, Arab, and African countries, especially those neighboring it, would be open, unobstructed, and friendly relations involving the development of bilateral interests, so that any problem that might arise between us and them can be absorbed. As a condition for our having relations with anyone, we do not allow it to be stipulated that relations exist with that party, but not with some other one. We believe it is to no party's advantage to lay down such conditions. This is also because we start from a purely Sudanese view of our relations with others.

We do not believe that our relations with any country should have a negative effect on other countries. Disputes may arise between countries with which we are friendly. In that case, it would be in the interest of the countries involved to expect us to play a part in eliminating the causes of the dispute and war and not to take sides on the question, for that would not represent the ideal means of dealing with such situations.

We are developing our relations with everybody, hoping to employ these relations to serve our bilateral interests and to realize such major goals as the strengthening of cooperation within the Islamic, Arab, and African framework.

[Question] What about the Sudanese prisoners of war in Iran?

[Answer] I know nothing about their release, though I believe that they, or at least some of them, will be released.

[Question] But a number of sources with reliable links to you have confirmed the existence of Sudanese mediation between Iraq and Iran.

[Answer] There has been no mediation. However, there is an effort whereby we are getting ready to learn whether a solution could be created on a carefully studied basis, after examination of the facts by the various parties and many quarters that have made peace proposals in the past. The important thing is that we want to stop this war. We do not wish to stand by watching it. What shall we do? We shall study the previous points of view and efforts. If we find a point of entry that is reasonable, sound, acceptable, and practical, we shall turn to it for the realization of our purposes in this regard.

Pressing Circumstances

[Question] Since you became prime minister, your tours have included many international stopping places, but not Cairo. Why? When, and under what conditions will you visit Cairo?

[Answer] First, as part of our regional policy in the area, we decided that all our relations with our neighbors should be sound and friendly relations. Visits by Sudanese officials have included just about all the countries neighboring the Sudan. None has been excluded.

As for me personally, my travels until now have not been planned in a programmatic way. Rather, I have traveled to particular destinations to deal with particular problems. My trip to Kenya, for example, was to attend a mini-summit. The trip to Addis Ababa was because of the African summit conference. The trip to Libya was to deal with a pressing question involving the Sudanese working there. The trip was necessary in order to deal with that pressing question. As for the New York trip, its purpose was to address the United Nations. The meetings that took place in America were held because of my presence there, and the visit to Britain was on the return trip. As for the trip to the Soviet Union, it had been agreed upon under the previous prime minister, Dr al-Jazuli Daf'allah, between the Sudan and the Soviet Union.

Relations between the two countries were extremely bad because of the stupid behavior of the now defunct regime. With the coming of the transitional government, it became apparent that a new page had to be started, based on good relations with the Soviet Union. Accordingly, a definite time was agreed upon with the former prime minister. It was my duty to carry out the scheduled meeting.

The important thing is that there is a Sudanese decision to improve relations with everyone without exception, especially neighbors.

Second, visits by high-level Sudanese officials to all neighbors have taken place. No neighbor has been excluded.

Third, my personal visits have been determined by particular pressing circumstances. No particular program was laid out including some destinations and excluding others. This is the answer to your question.

[Question] It has recently been reported that you have met twice--in America and in Turkey--with Dr Hasan 'Abdallah al-Turabi, head of the National Islamic Front. As is well known, relations between the government and the opposition are not favorable. Is this merely a maneuver, or is it the beginning of a plan to form an inclusive national government?

[Answer] What really happened, as you know, was that relations between us and our brothers in the National Islamic Front were extremely tense. However, in the context of the national mobilization and the current national position, we decided that it was necessary to agree on safeguarding the domestic front. This means that all the Sudanese political forces have to agree on the principal national issues. What happened was a meeting within this framework. It was agreed there that, whatever the circumstances might be in regard to political questions and to authority, agreement is necessary on certain main issues, especially now that we are facing two important matters:

--The National Constitutional Convention, which means a policy of mobilization to confront the rebellion movement, which has been proved to us without a doubt to be a terrorist movement, the agent of a foreign power, thus making it necessary for the Sudanese people to stand up to defend what is most sacred to it; and

--Our adoption of economic planning, which we want to be national in order to include the treatment of various problems.

To sum it up, there are national issues on which cooperation is possible. Our conversation did not, however, deal with political issues and questions relating to authority.

As you know, political affairs do not stand still; there is always something new in them which safeguards and confirms the national interest. Nevertheless, the meeting never went into the subject of a new setup for the government, nor was the issue of participation by the front in the government discussed. Those

are inferences and deductions. What was agreed upon was the need for agreement on national issues, so as to safeguard the domestic front in the face of any external aggression.

[Question] There have been many conflicting statements by you concerning the September Laws. What is the real situation in regard to this sensitive and important issue?

[Answer] The September Laws will be repealed. They will be repealed by new laws containing the correct formula for the application of Islam and the sound formula that guards the rights of non-Muslim Sudanese.

We shall strive to make this replacement acceptable to all the Sudanese political forces, so that it satisfies the aspirations of the majority and preserves the rights of the others who are not Muslims.

The only thing that can clarify the matter is when these replacement laws are completed and on their way to the Constituent Assembly for consideration. After their approval, they will become the replacement for the September Laws.

[Question] Is there no particular date by which it might be possible to conclude this serious and important matter?

[Answer] Part of it has been concluded, and the rest is coming. I think that three of the laws in question have been completed. Work is now underway on drafting the other five laws. After their formulation is finished, the government will undertake their presentation to the Constituent Assembly.

12937/12379
CSO: 4504/54

SPLA CHIEF OF STAFF URGES TRIBAL SOLIDARITY AGAINST REGIME

EA181131 (Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in
English 1300 GMT 17 Nov 86

[Text] Respective village committees of the (Kajak), Nuer and (Maibut) and the Anuak of Akobo have held a joint meeting with Lieutenant Colonel William Nyuan Bany, member of the SPLM-SPLA political military High Command and chief of staff. In the course of the meeting, the SPLA chief of staff exhorted the two sides to put aside their differences and seek permanent [words indistinct] to enable them to withstand the aggressive policies of the oppressors in Khartoum. The chief of staff told the two delegations that the history of turmoil which had characterized their [words indistinct] to be blamed on the policy to divide and rule which Khartoum was employing to undermine the unity of the Sudanese masses.

Both Major Issac (Gatlut) and Major (Chagai) Atem Blor, the commander of SPLM-SPLA general headquarters, also addressed the meeting, stressing the need for maintaining the harmonious relations established by the two sides and further strengthening them. It is worth mentioning that many sections among the various nationalities have managed under the supervision of SPLM-SPLA to take over a new [words indistinct] after prolonged hostility to one another. The meeting, which ended with a pledge by the two sides to work hand in hand within the framework of the armed struggle being waged by the SPLM-SPLA, was also attended by Captain [words indistinct].

/9738

CSO: 4500/33

BRIEFS

GOVERNMENT TROOPS KILLED--Reports from Tonj say that from 8 to 10 November, SPLA fighters under the command of Lieutenant Colonel Bona Bang Dhol assisted by Captain Albino Ater attacked enemy positions in Tonj Town. Twenty enemy soldiers were killed and 19 others were seriously wounded. Two heavy guns were captured and enemy foxholes were also destroyed. The following were rescued and are now in the safe hands of Captain Albino Ater: They are Father (James Palakar), age 35 and a citizen of India; (Michael Amos Abol), age 19, a Ugandan and a student of Tonj Seminary. On 8 November 1986, the SPLA also attacked Tonj army barracks using heavy weapons. Twenty government troops were killed and many others were wounded. The government soldiers who were then occupying Mayom secondary school fled and SPLA soldiers are now in the school. [Excerpts] [(Clandestine) Radio of the Sudanese People's Liberation Army in Dari 1120 GMT 18 Nov 86 EA] /9738

CORN EXPORTS--Khartoum, 24 Nov (SUNA)--A purchase contract between the [Sudanese] Government and a Saudi company was signed here today. According to the contract, 100,000 metric tons of corn, taken from quantities stored by the Sudanese agricultural bank from last season's production, will be exported to Saudi Arabia. A metric ton of corn will sell for \$120. [figure as received] These quantities will be shipped over a period of 3 months from the date of the contract. [Excerpt] [Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1430 GMT 24 Nov 86 JN] /9738

FOUR NEW EMBASSIES--Khartoum, 21 Nov *SUNA)--A responsible Foreign Ministry source has stated that the Foreign Ministry's expansion program contains the opening of four new embassies. The source added that this information was contained in a report submitted to the competent authorities in the ministry at the end of the meetings held by a special committee on the development of diplomatic work. The source added that the guidelines reached by the committee with respect to the Foreign Ministry's activities will be implemented soon. In a statement to AL-USBU', the source said that Iran has not set any conditions for the reopening of the Sudanese Embassy in Tehran. The source also stressed that career diplomats in the ministry reject any political appointments because there are many qualified cadres in the ministry who can efficiently represent their country abroad. [Text] [Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1020 GMT 21 Nov 86 JN] /9738

SFRY-SUDAN LOAN AGREEMENT--Khartoum, 20 Nov (SUNA)--An agreement was signed here today between Sudan and Yugoslavia under which Yugoslavia will extend a \$25 million loan to Sudan to build 11 maintenance centers for rural water pumping stations throughout the country. A responsible source at the rural water establishment said today that implementation of the project will begin early next January. [Excerpts] [Khartoum SUNA in Arabic 1426 GMT 20 Nov 86 JN] /9738

CSO: 4500/33

KARBALA' MAYOR CRITICIZES IRAN ON RELIGIOUS GROUNDS

London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 8-14 Nov 86 pp 19-20

[Interview with Karbala' Mayor Khalil Ibrahim Jasim, by Ahmad 'Abd-al-Majid: "Looking After the Holy City is a Big Responsibility;" in Karbala', date not specified]

[Text] Far away the golden domes faced us. The sun sent its rays down on them, and fire and light came together as one on the roofs of those domes, decorating the minarets as well with a golden glow.

On the right-hand side of the road, lined with fruit orchards, a green sign had been placed, bearing the words, "Karbala' Welcomes You." Nearby was another sign saying "Holy Sites 1000 meters," indicating that the tombs of Imam Husayn and his brother al-'Abbas were only 1,000 meters away.

So we were in the city of Karbala'. Through streets designed with modern traffic in mind, we drove our car to the governorate building--the administrative center of Karbala'--to meet the mayor of Karbala', Khalil Ibrahim Jasim.

The mayor received AL-TADAMUN in his neat, roomy office, voicing his pleasure at our visit. He gave us plenty of time, even though he was getting ready to leave the office to visit the families of Iraqi prisoners from the town whom the Iranian forces had executed recently on the South Majnun battlefield.

The mayor said, "Since the war began, we have kept on visiting the families of prisoners, the missing, and martyrs, in order to reassure and console these families, something which the leadership has traditionally urged us to do. Right now I am getting ready to visit two families in the al-Hindiya district, 120 kilometers from Baghdad, and another family in Karbala' City which lost its sons during the inhumane operation launched by the Iranian forces in the Majnun field of operations."

On a big table there was a pile of history books about the city's history and the roots of the ritual traditions surrounding visits to the holy sites. Our eye was caught by a book on 'Ashura traditions, which we found to be an opening for a question: Why are such books important to an Iraqi official functioning as an administrator in Karbala' Governorate?

He replied, "The era of colonialist domination and backwardness attempted to implant sectarian schism through a series of moves inconsistent with the essence of Islam and our unique local religious customs. This necessitates a return to the sources, or roots, of these customs and traditions in order to examine them and sort out the alien from the original and essential. These books are the means we have chosen to achieve this goal as I see it."

The mayor of the city to which Iraqi President Saddam Husayn has given such concern and attention continued, "We must examine and study historical phenomena--their growth, consequences and general results. Are there any positive features which would strengthen the fundamental relationship and connections brought by the divine mission? If so, we must adopt and inculcate them. And, whenever we find something which might detach a given group from the body of this nation and lead it along the wrong path, we must resolutely resist and confront it. This is particularly true for the intellectuals and the men of religion. Look at what is going on now--the war, and how Iran is helping perpetuate it. Those at the helm of the Iranian government have exploited religion and its compassionate side to mislead simple people around the world, particularly in Iran. We, on the other hand, know that there is no close or distant correlation between religion and their tendencies, because we know that all the divine religions call for doing good and loving others. All of this was embodied in Muhammad's mission and revealed in the verses of the Qur'an, as well as in the Prophet's guidance for day-to-day dealings and the way one lives, as followed by our worthy ancestors, the Islamic legists and scholars.

"Therefore, these phenomena are connected with another aspect, politics, under which heading comes the attitude of the group which is exploiting religion. The people in the Iranian government have injected religion into politics by considering themselves the ones who convey the teachings of religion and defend its principles. But if we go back to the spirit of the Holy Qur'an, we find that it prohibits killing innocent persons. How can they kill Muslims and follow this path at the same time? According to Muslim custom, they are our neighbors. As the Prophet Muhammad bin 'Abdallah said, "Gabriel kept telling me to look after my neighbor, even if I thought he was going to make me his heir."

"Therefore, the rulers of Iran are a cast-off group. They are, as the second Islamic conference described them, "a group of oppressors who have abandoned the principles, traditions and customs of Islam, and who disbelieve the verses of the Qur'an." They have proven, at home and abroad, that they have abandoned religion. Enough with their repeated claims that Muhammad's mission is not yet finished, and that it is their task to complete it!"

Khalil Ibrahim Jasim revealed a very important point when he said, "If we refer to the standards set by the 'learned precincts' in al-Najaf, we see that Khomeini is not a mujtahid [independent interpreter of theological matters] and is not known for his independent judgement. In his conduct and practices over the past 15 years, he has behaved like fanatic groups, such as the papacy and Baha'ism, which believe that they alone are pure and that everything else is ignorant or futile. Anyone who has observed Khomeini knows that he is completely remote from Islam. The last pilgrimage season in Saudi Arabia revealed many of the forbidden practices which the Iranians were committing, at the behest and direction of Khomeini himself. Whereas the earlier caliphs and Arab Muslim commanders urged their soldiers to be merciful, to not kill prisoners and to not cut down trees, we find the forces of the Iranian regime attacking peaceful cities and killing children and prisoners."

[Question] Could we look at the situation in Iraq, so as to compare?

[Answer] There is one important point: all the allegations the Iranian regime is making about Iraq and its revolution have absolutely no basis in fact. We live in a country led by a revolutionary party which embodies in its theory the principles and missions of the Arab world. We are guided by a field theory the details of which have been formulated by President Saddam Husayn, who has become a symbol for every Iraqi citizen, northerner or southerner, as proven by his visits to various parts of the country. President Saddam Husayn has visited the city of Karbala' on the occasion of 'Ashura--the anniversary of the martyrdom of Imam Husayn--two times, the first in 1985 and the second time this year. The masses rallied around him in an amazing way, in spite of the fact that on this day, as everyone knows, most of the people of Iraq and the Muslim world get very emotional. The masses greeted him spontaneously, revealing their affection for him, and performed the rites of visiting Imam Husayn with him, even before the administrative authorities had heard that he had come. This means that as long as there is a leader like Saddam Husayn, there is no need to fear for Iraq or the Arab world, because we have a man who is devoted to original principles, whether at home or abroad.

[Question] Could we have some details about the new tasks and responsibilities being assumed by Iraq's administrative leader because of the war?

[Answer] The fact is that we are all students in Saddam Husayn's school. When we find out leader Saddam Husayn managing the affairs of the state, the party and the war, and also visiting all segments of the population, we definitely should emulate him. He has taught us to be guided by a central slogan: Be both teacher and student among the masses. We act accordingly. We feel that visiting the citizens and the families of martyrs, prisoners and missing persons is a struggling duty which derives from our belief that we belong to the people and that we are in power to serve the people. That is, we have learned that power is a way to serve the people. It may not be an exaggeration for me to say that the responsibilities we are taking on are but a small portion of the burdens which our leader Saddam Husayn has assumed on all levels. We are doing this in order to urge the citizens to have faith and to give concrete form to their new national identity, which causes them to continue fighting for the seventh year, willing to fight until the seventieth.

Here you see Karbala', on which Khomeini has placed his bets. Its people have always given and will continue to give their all in the war's battles. There are families which have given up two and even three martyrs. The women of Karbala' have also helped by contributing gold and money. They have supported the struggle, and are now raising arms against the tyrants.

[Question] Everyone knows that President Saddam Husayn has shown particular concern for Karbala'. Could you give us a quick picture of the service, industrial, educational and religious projects which the president has ordered to be implemented in spite of the war conditions?

[Answer] First of all, I must point out that President Saddam Husayn has ordered that the payments budget for construction and development of modern facilities for the holy sites be considered open and unlimited. he has also ordered the construction of several important projects, most importantly the cement and limestone block plants, electricity projects, and roads. There is a water project which will cost more than 25 million Iraqi dinars, and another project to bring water to the desert at a cost of 100 million dinars. A new sewer network will be built for the city, land pilgrimage routes to Saudi Arabia will be built to make it easier for the pilgrims to get to Mecca, and there will be roads to link the city with the countryside. There is a 5 million dinar project in the West al-Jadwal area, and a modern slaughterhouse and poultry yard considered the largest such project in the Middle East. In addition, the necessary allocations have been made for more than 32 projects which were completed from 1982 to 1984, in addition to several school buildings, technical institutes, youth centers, clinics and social welfare centers. The truth is, development and construction at the holy sites has not been interrupted at all throughout the war years.

8559

CSO: 4404/82

DETAILS GIVEN ON FOREIGN SERVICE INSTITUTE

London AL-TADAMUN in Arabic 8-14 Nov 86 pp 58-59

[Article by Nidal Hasan 'Abd-al-Jalil: "Diplomats At School Desks!"]

[Text] In selecting its employees, the Iraqi Foreign Ministry relies on several important guidelines in order to ensure that it will have employees and staff who will be suited to the positions or posts which they will fill and who will represent their country well. One of these guidelines is fluency in a major language other than the mother tongue, the most important such languages being English, French, Spanish and Russian. Furthermore, certain educational specializations are preferred for persons working in the foreign service field, mainly economics, political science, and law. The foreign service employee must also pass an examination or test of his personal capabilities and his ability to become a good diplomat. These and other things take place before appointment.

But the ministry is not satisfied with the diploma or language skills which the employee brings with him. Attached to the ministry is a training organization which corresponds to similar institutes for qualifying and training skilled diplomats run by world-famous organizations in the advanced countries.

To find out what goes on in this organization, AL-TADAMUN visited the Iraqi Foreign Ministry's Foreign Service Institute, and met with its dean, Dr Musa al-Sudani, in order to learn more about this organization so important to the edifice of Iraqi diplomacy.

[Question] When was the institute founded, and how many students has it had?

[Answer] The Foreign Service Institute, a subsidiary of the Foreign Ministry, was founded in 1970. So far, eleven diplomatic qualification classes have graduated from it. The institute's curricula and its teaching equipment were improved when the present building was completed in 1980.

[Question] What is the institute's mission?

[Answer] The institute's basic mission is to train the Foreign Ministry's diplomats and improve their competence, as well as to prepare new diplomats. According to the statutes of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry, no employee can become a diplomat until he graduates from one of the institute's qualifying courses.

[Question] Do you help prepare employees of technical attache departments?

[Answer] The institute is in direct contact with all departments which send people overseas. In our classes, we accept persons affiliated with many departments. The institute also administers foreign language examinations for the employees of any ministry which wants to send people to work overseas in attache departments and offices.

[Question] What is the orientation of the courses?

[Answer] There are two kinds of courses at the institute. First are the diplomatic qualification courses, in which university graduates in various fields are accepted. They study for 2 full years, and those who pass are given the grade of diplomat or attache. The second type of class is devoted to improving the competence of diplomatic corps employees during their service. These courses last from 1 to 2 years, and by law senior diplomats in the diplomatic corps cannot be promoted to a higher grade until they pass such courses.

[Question] What are the latest plans for bringing the ministry staff up to the desired level of competence?

[Answer] In order to improve the diplomats' skills, the first basic training session was started late last year. A second course will be started this November. As for the diplomatic qualification courses, they have been going on for 16 years now.

[Question] How do you operate, in light of the new policy for developing Foreign Ministry personnel?

[Answer] Lately, emphasis has been given to teaching at least one foreign language to those working at the ministry. An employee cannot be transferred overseas until he passes an examination in that language at the institute, with a grade of at least 80 percent. This decision has led to outstanding efforts by Foreign Ministry employees to study and improve their skills in order to reach this stage.

[Question] Do you rely on foreign expertise?

[Answer] Professors from Iraqi universities, as well as foreigners, do the teaching. For example, at present we have one French professor and another British professor teaching French and English, and in the past there have been Spanish professors.

[Question] How does the institute compare to similar institutes, particularly the American, French and Egyptian institutes and the diplomacy section of the British university?

[Answer] The institute is comparable to the Washington institute, from the standpoint of the system used, as well as the quality of the educational and cultural material and the equipment used.

[Question] To what extent does the institute draw on similar institutes?

[Answer] The institute has contacts with similar academic institutes in the Arab world and the rest of the world. Each year the institute takes part in the conference of diplomatic institute and academy deans and teachers, which is held in a country which has a comparable institute. Last year we took part in the Vienna conference, and this year we will participate in the Rome conference. Our institute also exchanges visits with similar institutes; the dean of the Egyptian diplomatic institute visited us a few months ago. This year we have opened enrollment in institute courses to several fraternal Arab countries, and several diplomats from the Yemen Arab Republic will be accepted in our classes.

[Question] Are there alternatives to the institute, such as a special section for diplomatic studies at the college of law and political science, for example?

[Answer] You are referring to the British experiment at Oxford University. Our experiment is much better, since the diplomats learn everything they will need for their future work--protocol, international law, sciences--everything. The consul or diplomat can get everything he needs.

[Question] Has anyone ever failed the course?

[Answer] The student goes through a full year of practical training in addition to his theoretical studies. He cannot graduate from the institute if he has failed in any of his employment skills. The year of practical training is spent in an embassy outside Iraq, for the purpose of increasing the student's language abilities.

[Question] The Revolution Command Council has issued a decree allocating overseas scholarships for students, after which they would be appointed to the Foreign Ministry. Is this still in effect, or have there been changes?

[Answer] There have been Iraqi Foreign Ministry scholarships to other countries, at ministry expense, and there is yet another type of scholarship for studies during ministry service, whereby an employee is nominated for a study mission or scholarship outside the country in order to obtain a master's degree or a doctorate in a field of interest to the ministry.

[Question] Does the institute have any other functions?

[Answer] The institute trains the ministry's administrative employees in subjects ranging from languages to typing and simultaneous interpretation. We have also opened our courses to the wives of diplomats, so that they can handle the responsibilities which fall to them while performing their functions.

After its interview with the dean of the Iraqi Foreign Ministry's Foreign Service Institute, AL-TADAMUN toured the institute in order to examine the modern techniques used to prepare and train Iraqi diplomatic personnel. Accompanied by an employee, AL-TADAMUN visited the study halls and the audio-visual and simultaneous interpretation halls for three languages--English, French and Spanish. We then met with students of the diplomatic qualification course, which has 11 employees as students, among them junior diplomats, diplomats, and others who have spent most of their working lives as employees. One was 24-year-old Miss Niran Hashim al-Na'imi, the daughter of a former journalist. She has a bachelor's degree in law, and is a recent graduate who has not yet started working.

AL-TADAMUN asked Niran about her aspirations, and she replied, "My ambition is to become a diplomat, to raise and honor my country's name overseas through proper conduct and careful performance of my duties. Ambition gives strength and removes difficulties."

Nawwaf Shadhil Taqqah is 28 years old, is a graduate in English literature, and has worked in India for 3 years.

[Question] How was your Indian experience, especially since you were at the time the youngest diplomat, only 24 years old?

[Answer] I gained broad experience because of India's geographical vastness. It has an advanced press, and its political life is democratic. Relations are easy, and there are no difficult diplomatic relations. In addition, as Orientals we are linked by common customs.

We then went on to talk with some older diplomats, among them 37-year-old Diplomat Amal 'Abdallah Husayn, a graduate of Sabiqah Girls' College, the oldest girls' college in Iraq, who works in the ministry's secretariat.

[Question] What posts have you held?

[Answer] I worked in Washington from 1980 to 1982, in the Iraqi interests section, where I was commercial attache, then economic attache, then comptroller and health attache.

[Question] Did you encounter any difficulties in your diplomatic work?

[Answer] The main problem I encountered was in the health department, because the citizens thought that I could accompany them the whole time they were away from Iraq. Just imagine how many of our citizens do there for treatment; how could I accompany all of them?

I also had problems attending parties, as a young Middle Eastern woman somewhat restricted when it comes to social relations.

Falih Hasan al-Asadi was a professor of information at Baghdad University's liberal arts college who recently transferred to the Foreign Ministry as an employee. He has spent a year at the institute, and has a year to go to

finish the training course. We asked him what he would do as an information specialist and diplomat at the same time. He replied, "I want to give people a clear picture of Iraq, and to counteract hostile information overseas as well as I can."

We moved on to the basic training course offered to counselors and first secretaries, i.e. to senior ministry personnel, a 1-year course being offered for the first time. We talked with some of the student diplomats.

Counselor 'Amir Naji spoke up even before we asked about the diplomats, saying that one ought to think three times before saying anything, or else not say anything at all!

He spoke of his years of service, saying that they are as old as the 1968 Iraqi revolution, i.e. 18 years.

We asked him what he thought about this class which had been set up for them, especially since they have served in this profession for so long. He replied, "People always seek education. At the age of 90, Tolstoy knew 13 languages. The ministry is giving us a beautiful opportunity to develop our abilities. Our class is devoted to discussing international law, international relations, and timely issues--all of which is diplomatic work for senior personnel. Writing research papers is an important part of our studies. A certain topic is selected, and the results are always useful to the ministry.

[Question] Does an individual's absence affect the course of work at the ministry?

[Answer] From the standpoint of resources and the ability to train its people, the ministry's resources are very good, in spite of the wartime conditions, since attention is concentrated on ministry personnel.

We asked Counselor 'Abd-al-Latif al-Na'imi about his impressions of the course. He said, "This is the first class of its type, and will last 10 months without a break. It is concentrated and involves a certain coordination, so that we can be well-informed about military, political and diplomatic activities. The approach is to combine and coordinate events and hopefully reach the right results. The ministry has provided all the resources, and is striving to implement the political command's decision to develop the diplomatic corps so as to serve the country's aspirations. Here we study pivotal issues and do in-depth academic research and studies about subjects taken earlier during the first qualifications course. Enrollment in this course is the result of an employee's service in the diplomatic corps.

The country's particular circumstances, and the regional and international circumstances as well, require the ministry's senior personnel to be the guests of advanced countries in the course of their diplomatic efforts to implement central political decisions. The course is directly supervised by the Iraqi foreign minister, in his capacity as chief Iraqi diplomat. Hopefully, the graduates of this course will provide a good example by putting into practice the course's curricula, which are comparable to those taught at the world's most advanced institutes."

WATER SITUATION IN GAZA DESCRIBED

Jersualem AL-BAYADIR AL-SIYASI in Arabic 4 Oct 86 pp 33-38

[Article: "Water in Gaza Strip; Palestinians Prevented from Exploiting Their Land's Wealth and Resources in Favor of Israeli Settlers; Numerous Causes for Increasing Salinity in Underground Wells; Measures To Tighten Authorities' Grip on Water Resources"]

[Text] The water issue would not receive greater attention than merited by its importance to the life of the Gaza Strip's population or to anybody's life were it not for the serious crisis that has begun to surface in the citizens' lives, whether in connection with drinking water or with water to irrigate the strip's crops.

Out of our belief in the importance and vitality of this issue, we have found it necessary to plunge into the bowels of the land to whose richness and generosity we have become accustomed and which is experiencing the pains of failure for the first time. The consequences of these pains are certainly reflected directly on the citizen's life.

Through this study, we will try to discuss the Strip's water resources, the geological situation, the water's potability, the agencies in charge of water utilization, water uses, the restrictions imposed on water utilization, and the causes of the water drain.

Water Resources in Gaza Strip

The Strip's water resources are confined to rainwater and to underground water whose replenishment relies in turn on the annual rainfall. This ties underground water utilization to the rainfall's capacity to replenish the water drawn from the underground store. Consequently, people mainly rely on underground water. Some people believe that the Strip's water comes from a single source, namely underground water. However, we divide the water sources into two sources and will deal with each source separately.

First, Rainfall:

Rains begin in mid-November, increase in December, and peak in January and February. They then begin to diminish and stop falling by the end of March

and the beginning of April.^[1] Some early rain falls and then rain stops altogether in May and June, as demonstrated in Chart 1a.

Chart 1a. Rainfall Volume and Averages Throughout the Year

<u>Month</u>	Year 1967-68		Year 1970-71 ^[2]	
	<u>Number of Rainy Days</u>	<u>Rainfall in Millimeters</u>	<u>Number of Rainy Days</u>	<u>Volume in Millimeters</u>
August and September ^[3]	-	-	-	2.7
October	2	39	2	7.0
November	8	131	6	53.3
December	12	50	12	89.6
January	14	110	11	123.7
February	6	33	8	71.4
March	2	11	3	13.3
April	3	37	9	75.3
May and June	1	4	-	-
Total	48	415	51	436.3 ^[3]

Chart 1b. Below demonstrates the total monthly rainfall in 1983 (according to Gaza station):

<u>Month</u>	<u>Volume in Millimeters</u>
January	280.6
February	106.4
March	61.6
April	5.8
May and June	0.5
October	2.2
November	46.7
December	16.4

Average rainfall in Gaza Strip varies from area to area, with the rainfall decreasing as we move from the north to the south. This rainfall ranges from more than 400 mm in the north (Bayt Hanun area) to less than 100 mm in the south (near Rafah), as demonstrated in Chart 2a. The rainfall volume also varies from year to year, as demonstrated in Chart 1a. The volume of rain falling in the Strip is estimated at 50 million cubic meters annually.

Chart 2a. Strip's Rainfall Volume in Millimeters

Area	1977-78 Rainfall	Area	1982-83 Rainfall
	Volume in Millimeters		Volume in Millimeters
Bayt Hanun	300.3 ^[5]	Bayt Hanun	717.0 ^[4]
Bayt Lahiya	334.5	Bayt Lahiya	660.0
Mazra'at al-Shati'	303.4	Gaza	600.0
Gaza/al-Mighraqah	287.5	al-Nusayrat	560.0
Al-Nusayrat	291.5	al-Qararah	550.0
Dayr al-Balah	298.0	Dayr al-Balah	520.0
Khan Yunis	231.0	Khan Yunis	479.0
Rafah	183.0	Rafah	370.0
Gaza (Water Branch)	410.2		
Total	2,639.4	Total	4,456.0

Second, Underground Water:

In Gaza Strip, underground water represents the second major source of water. The importance of this source has increased with the constant growth of underground water use since the 1950's. This growth has accompanied the agricultural expansion, especially in the cultivation of citrus fruits, the expansion in processing activities, and the development of living standards.

In Gaza Strip, the depth of underground water from the surface ranges from 20-80 meters. It may reach a depth of 100 meters and decrease to a depth of 8 meters in areas close to the sea.^[1] The underground water reservoir in the Strip is nearly 50 km long and 8-12 km wide, meaning that its area is nearly 100 [as published] square km.

The underground water is utilized through deep artesian wells fitted with motor-operated pressure pumps. The need for these wells and their use have increased with the development of the cultivation of citrus fruits and vegetables which require a permanent irrigation system (irrigated farming) and with the development of living standards and processing activities. We should also take into consideration the Strip's growing population, which numbers nearly 650,000 people, whereas it was, according to the official statistics, 412,282 people at the end of 1964.

Chart 3a below shows the development of the number of wells and the acreage cultivated, whether in dryland farming or in irrigated farming:

Year	Total Number of Wells	Total Cultivated Area	Area of Cultivated Dryfarm Land (in dunums)	Area of Cultivated Lands with Constant Irrigation (in dunums)
1948-49	442	97,192	77,470	19,722
1952-53	480	115,800	88,250	27,550
1955-56	526	121,350	93,000	28,350
1958-59	604	141,826	112,283	29,543
1959-60	Not available	145,826	110,293	35,533 ^[6]
1960-61	Not available	Not available	Not available	Not available
1963-64	861	163,353	Not available	Not available

Thus, we find that permanent irrigation covered only 20 percent of the total area cultivated in 1948-49 whereas nearly 25 percent of the acreage cultivated in 1959-60 relied on permanent irrigation, keeping in mind the growth of the area cultivated in 1960 in comparison with the area cultivated in 1948.

After the occupation, the Israeli authorities imposed strict restrictions on water use and on tree cultivation, especially the cultivation of citrus fruit trees, allocating only 1,000 cubic meters of water annually for each dunum of land cultivated with citrus fruits, disregarding the nature of the land and the type of soil involved. The authorities have levied exorbitant fines for water consumption exceeding the permitted limit. This limit is much lower than the rates permitted within the green line and which are actually needed for successful cultivation under the Strip's natural conditions. For the same purpose, the authorities have issued decrees which ban the cultivation of trees and which call for the trial and fining of farmers who violate them. The authorities have also banned the drilling of new wells (see AL-BAYADIR AL-SIYASI, No 176, "Cultivation of Vegetables in Gaza Strip," by Muhammad al-Mashukhi).

The acreage of land relying on permanent irrigation is many times the acreage of land relying on rainfall. This is why the number of wells used for irrigation and for human, home, and industrial consumption has increased. The total number of wells amounted in 1986 to 1,918 wells, of which 103 are inoperable. Chart 4 demonstrates the distribution of wells according to area. This is in addition to 31 wells built by Mekorot, the regional Israeli company, in the southern area on contract with the Agriculture Department and 6 wells built by UNRWA, thus bringing the total number of wells to 1,842, excluding the wells in the Israeli settlements located north of Gaza City. No information is available to us on the number and capacity of these wells. Later in this study, we will discuss the wells that nourish the settlement activity in particular and that are heavily concentrated in the southern part of the Strip.

Chart 4. Number and Distribution of Wells, Both Operable and Inoperable, in Gaza Strip in 1986

<u>Area</u>	<u>Total Number of Wells</u>	<u>Inoperable</u>	<u>Operable</u>
1. Dummarah	25	-	25
2. Bayt Hanun	145	2	143
3. Bayt Lahiya	188	3	185
4. Jabaliya	160	4	156
5. Al-Nuzlah	67	3	64
6. Northwest Gaza	272	35	237
7. Northeast Gaza	73	5	68
8. Southwest Gaza	195	7	188
9. Northern al-Sab'	68	3	65
10. Central al-Sab'	43	1	42
11. Southern al-Sab'	8	1	7
12. Abu Mudyin	49	3	46
13. Al-Nusayrat	94	4	90
14. Al-Sumayri	15	-	15
15. Dayr al-Balah	153	10	143
16. Khaza'ah	5	4	1
17. Bani Suhayla	11	-	11
18. Greater and Smaller 'Absan	24	1	23
19. Khan Yunis	178	11	167
20. Rafah	145	6	139
Grand Total	11,918	103	1,815

Strip Water Is Not for Human Consumption

It is accepted "in terms of health" that water salinity must not exceed 250 ppm [parts per million]. As for irrigated water, salinity or chlorides must not exceed 300 ppm. We notice that salinity in the major part of the Strip water exceeds these rates, with Gaza underground water salinity rising as we move from north to south. The studies conducted on underground water in the 1950's (1953-54) show that salinity ranges from 400-2,500 ppm in the northern and central part of the Strip and from 2,500-4,000 ppm in the southern area.[6]

But the consumption of underground water has increased, especially in the past 10 years, as a result of numerous reasons, the most significant being the construction of agricultural settlements that draw a quantity of water which exceeds the quantity that is supposed to be drawn annually. This hypothetical quantity must not exceed the total volume of the rainfall and drainage water because the difference between the volume drawn and the volume replenished is consumed from the underground water reservoir, thus causing the water level in this reservoir to drop and, consequently, the salinity to increase.

Currently, the Strip's water production exceeds the actual capacity of the underground reservoir. The volume of water seeping into the earth every year is estimated at 60 million cubic meters whereas the volume of the underground water drawn annually is estimated at 100 million cubic meters. The difference, amounting to 40 million cubic meters, is made up from the underground water reservoir.

Chart 5. Salinity Rates in Various Parts of Strip in 1985

<u>Area</u>	<u>Rate of Chlorides Per Liter [ppm]</u>
Dummarah and Northern Bayt Hanun	100-200
Bayt Hanun	100-350
Bayt Lahiya	30-150
Jabaliya	50-350
Al-Nuzlah	50-350
Northeast Gaza	100-500
Northwest Gaza	500-2,000
Southwest Gaza	500-2,000
Abu Mudyin	200-2,200
Al-Nusayrat	400-2,000
Al-Burayj al-Maghazi	350-1,500
East Gaza Valley	[No figures given]
Dayr al-Balah	100-3,000
Al-Sumayri	150-1,000
Bani Suhayla	500-1,500
'Absan	700-2,000
Khaza'ah	1,200-2,000
Southern al-Sab' Area	700-2,000
Khan Yunis	150-2,000
Rafah	200-1,000

Chart 6. Development in Water Salinity in PPM (One Well from Each Area Throughout Period Covered by Chart) ^[12]

<u>Area</u>	<u>Salinity Rate in May 1975</u>	<u>Salinity Rate in May 1976</u>	<u>Salinity Rate in May 1985</u>	<u>Salinity Rate in May 1986</u>
Dummarah Area	168	168	112	133
Bayt Hanun	182	203	217	210
Bayt Lahiya	266	273	287	294
Al-Nuzlah	42	49	56	49
Jabaliya	84	91	105	105
Northeast Gaza	336	308	294	315
Northwest Gaza	217	224	222	231
Southwest Gaza	476	476	623	693
Northern al-Sab'	294	371	406	511
Abu Mudyin	658	151	1,001	1,043
Al-Nusayrat	511	399	483	490
Dayr al-Balah	322	469	630	553

[Chart 6 (Continued)]

<u>Area</u>	<u>Salinity Rate in May 1975</u>	<u>Salinity Rate in May 1976</u>	<u>Salinity Rate in May 1985</u>	<u>Salinity Rate in May 1986</u>
Al-Sumayri	441	434	420	443
Eastern al-Sab'	602	714	700	679
Southern al-Sab'	560	672	1,120	1,204
Bani Suhayla (village council well)	637	812	1,001	826
'Absan	847	843	910	903
Khaza'ah	1,232	1,239	1,204	1,141
Khan Yunis (municipal well)	735	721	525	553
Rafah (municipal well)	350	329	294	525
Average Salinity Rate Wells in 1975, 1976, 1985 and 1986	448 ppm	447.3 ppm	530.5 ppm	545.05 ppm

It is noticed from Chart 6 that the salinity rate is unstable. It has decreased in five wells in five different areas while increasing in other wells. Between 1975 and 1986, the salinity rate increased from 658 to 1,043 ppm in 56 wells in Northern al-Sab' area--central camps.

The other chart indicates that increased salinity is not affected solely by increased drawing from the underground reservoir. This motivates us to discuss the geological position of the Strip's land.

Strip's Geological Position

There is a single water reservoir extending along the coastal strip to a depth of 10 km eastward. The reservoir is separated by the Gaza Valley, which extends from east to west. The water reservoir is carried by an impervious clay layer that does not permit water to penetrate or seep into the other layers. The reservoir is 20-90 meters below soil surface and the average depth of the water-carrying layer is nearly 30 meters, though varying from area to area. The water direction is from east to west, especially the direction of rainwater, which ranges from 40-50 million cubic meters annually. The depth of the wells ranges from 5-90 meters.

The salinity rate in the underground water reservoir ranges from 50-300 ppm. Water with a salinity rate of more than 300 ppm is considered unfit for agriculture generally and for drinking in particular. Health specialists say that excessive water salinity is harmful to human health if the water is used for a long time.[12]

Salinity Sources

Salinity, which has begun to appear clearly and seriously in the Strip water, comes from several sources:

First, when water runs in the valleys it melts a greater or lesser amount of surface salts, depending on the soil layers through which it passes. During water seepage to the underground reservoir, it also melts some of the salts existing in the various soil layers, with the amount of melted salts depending on the type of soil layers the water passes through.

Second, salinity from seawater when seawater pressure exceeds the pressure of underground water formed by rain. Rainwater moves in a westerly direction toward the coast. If the volume of this water exceeds the reserve (balance), then it squeezes out the seawater and prevents it from infiltrating eastward. But when underground water decreases, it gives seawater the chance to seep eastward and to mix with the underground water. This is what has happened in the coastal wells.

In recent years, with the water pumped out of the underground reservoir exceeding the replenished water, saline water has seeped into the underground reservoir. Some people say that salt water has moved several kilometers eastward in recent years.

Third, the salinity in the eastern wells remote from the coast, especially in the wells of Khaza'ah area, east of Khan Yunis, which is the easternmost point in the Strip and where salinity has reached 1,141 ppm--this salinity comes from the soil layers through which the underground water passes. What has helped this salinity increase is the fact that there is less rainfall in the southern area than in the northern area and that the underground reservoir is much better replenished in the northern area. This is in addition to the difference in the geological layers of the area's soil. Rocks in the southern area contain a high degree of easily soluble salts in contrast to the northern areas.

A study of the geographical distribution of water consumption shows that human consumption is concentrated in the north. Gaza City alone uses more than 50 percent of the water consumed for non-agricultural purposes, not to mention the villages and camps north of the city. Moreover, irrigated agriculture is more heavily concentrated in the north than in the south (see chart on home and industrial use and on the geographic distribution of citrus groves).

However, the concentrated Israeli settlement in the southern part of the Strip and the large number of wells drilled by the Israeli settlements and by Microt, the Israeli water company, in this part are responsible for the Strip's water crisis in general, especially in the south.

Even though the water resources are limited in comparison with the size of the population, the Israeli occupation has created an additional burden on these resources as a result of the settlement policy which drains some of the resources. This is on top of the official measures taken by the

occupation authorities to curtail agricultural growth in the area, measures which prohibit drilling any new wells, limit the quantity of water pumped out, and ban the cultivation of any more citrus trees.[8]

The water problem is not confined just to the scarcity of water but extends to the water quality which is getting gradually poorer as a result of the increased salinity. This is due, according to the experts, to the increased volume of water pumped out of the water reservoir. These experts estimate the volume of rainwater seeping underground at 60 million cubic meters annually whereas the volume pumped out is estimated at 100 million cubic meters annually. The deficit is drawn from the water reservoir whose salinity is rising year after year as a result of the seepage of seawater. According to the official reports, the salinity in wells ranges from 300-1,700 ppm. But according to citrus producers, these estimates on underground water and on other aspects are no more than justifications for the obstacles created by the occupation authorities to prevent the cultivation of new areas with citrus trees and the replacement of old trees by the law they have issued for the purpose. As proof of their point, the people who hold this opinion cite the incentives the authorities pay for cutting citrus trees or drying up citrus groves without putting any curbs on alternative crops which, as we know, need irrigation water.[9]

A study by the Research and Documentation Center of Bi'r Zayt University--"Settlement and Land Confiscation in Gaza Strip," p 11--states the following: "In Gaza Strip, the settlers, amounting to 2,110 people by the end of 1984, consume 30-60 million cubic meters annually compared to the 100 million cubic meters consumed by the Strip population, which numbers 500,600 people. This means that each of the settlers, who altogether form less than 1/2 percent of the Strip's entire population, consumes 14,218-28,436 cubic meters whereas the native inhabitant of the Strip consumes 200 cubic meters of water annually." This explains the motives behind the Israeli authorities' restrictions on the use of water by Palestinian citizens. It is evident that the purpose of these measures is to withhold the water resources from the Palestinians in the interest of expanded Israeli settlement.

What proves this conclusion is that the Gaza Strip water reservoir is totally separated from the Israeli underground water. While the Israeli presence and its policies represent an additional burden on the available water resources and a restriction on the possibilities of growth and development, this presence resorts to obvious deception and falsehood which are made evident by a preliminary reading of the book written by Israeli journalist Gideon Weikert entitled "Flourishing Jerusalem, 1977" and the Israeli official bulletins, "Desert The Green Revolution in Gaza Strip.

Supervision of Water Utilization in Gaza Strip

The Gaza Agriculture Department (one of the civil administration departments) supervises water utilization in Gaza Strip, excluding the wells belonging to the Israeli settlements. The Israeli Regional Water Company, Mekorot, supervises the wells that belong to it on contract with the Agriculture Department. Regarding supervision of the Gaza Strip water, the Agriculture Department carries out the following:

1. It controls drawing from the wells by checking once every 2 months the water meters installed on wells. As for meters installed on municipal wells and wells belonging to village and local councils, the Agriculture Department checks them once a month.

2. It watches the underground water level in wells, using a special apparatus for the purpose. Monthly checks on underground water levels are conducted on nearly 150 wells (some of them municipal) spread throughout the Strip.

The wells subjected to monthly checks have been selected to represent all parts of the Strip, which is divided into specific quadrangles by the Agriculture Department's hydrology section. The underground water level is also checked in nearly 50 other wells once every 6 months as a further test.

3. It watches the water quality by collecting water samples every 6 months (in May and October) to determine the salinity rate. Nearly 90 percent of the Strip wells are subjected to this analysis. These 2 months have been chosen on the basis that May represents the beginning of summer when drawing from the underground water increases and that October represents the beginning of another phase in the underground water reservoir, which is usually exhausted as a result of drawing in the preceding period.

The Agriculture Department's hydrology section sends the outcome of the analysis and all its reports to the main hydrology section in Jerusalem.

4. It provides technical assistance to well owners. The Gaza Agriculture Department instructs well owners on how to exploit their wells properly and how to avoid problems and obstacles that may encounter them.

5. The Agriculture Department intervenes at times as a mediator between well owner and farmer to determine the water price. Its intervention comes on the basis of complaint by one party against the other.

6. The department issues the permits to drill and exploit wells and watches to make sure that the conditions contained in the permits are observed. In November 1974, the Israeli military administration issued Directive No 498 on water affairs with the aim of tightening the Israeli authorities' control on Gaza Strip's water resources on the pretext of protecting the water resources and the water level against the dangers of salinity and excessive consumption. This pretext is in flagrant contrast with the facts which the occupation is eager to conceal and on which it is eager not to publish any data. The first fact is the unprecedented drain of water resources by the Israeli settlements and Israeli settlers in Gaza Strip (see the Research and Documentation Center of Bi'r Zayt University, "Settlement and Confiscation of Lands in Gaza Strip," p 11).

Through this military order, the authorities imposed strict restrictions on the citizens' water consumption and forced the citizens to obtain permits for drilling or renewing wells and other permits to pump water

out of the ground and to install meters to make it possible to check the quantity consumed. At the same time, the authorities set the maximum quantities that may be consumed in the permits given the citizens and levied exorbitant fines on whoever violates the terms spelled out in the permits.

Article 16a of Directive No 498 on water affairs states: "The authority concerned may issue instructions prohibiting the production, supply, or consumption of water from a certain water source or in a certain area except on a permit issued by this authority and in accordance with the terms spelled out in the permit. If the authorities concerned issue such instructions, then the production, supply, or consumption of water and the quantity of the water pumped out, supplied, or consumed shall be in accordance with the terms of the permit as of the date the authority concerned specifies in its instructions. The said permit shall be called the production permit."

Article 20 of the same directive states that the authority concerned may at any time issue an order cancelling or reducing the quantity of water allowed by the production permit if there is a shortage of water or for other reasons determined by the authority concerned and stated in the order it issues.

Article 24a of the order states that "nobody is allowed to drill a well or set up an installation without a permit issued by the authority concerned in accordance with the provisions of this order."

Article 28 states that a permit to drill a well or build an installation does not absolve the permit holder from the duty of obtaining the permits and approvals needed in accordance with this order and with every legislation and security legislation concerning the production, consumption, or supply of water from a well or an installation.

In accordance with this order, the Agriculture Department issues annual water production and supply permits in which it spells out the name of the permit holder and his annual water share in cubic meters from the specified well at the specified site. The share is distributed in accordance with an appendix containing the names of the consumers and considered an inseparable part of the permit. The permit appendix--Appendix B--contains the basic conditions for water production and consumption, the most important of which are the following:

--A permit holder shall immediately inform the authority concerned of any change in the details noted in the permit, such as any trees removed, any drop in a well's flow, and so forth.

--Should owners of a well produce, supply, or consume a quantity of water greater than allowed in the permit by supplying a consumer unlisted in the permit, they shall be subject to the strictest penalties and measures stipulated in the water law and its appendices, including license cancellation and termination of water production from the well.

--The validity of this permit shall be tied to maintaining the legality of all aspects of the well, including drilling and equipment installation.

--A license holder may not transfer the water or a share of the water allotted to one consumer to any other consumer prior to obtaining a written permit from the authority concerned.

--It is totally forbidden to supply water to any consumer whose name is not listed in the license prior to obtaining an advance written permit from the authority concerned.

--Nobody shall be permitted to produce, consume, or supply water without a working water meter approved by the authority concerned.

--In case of a meter breakdown, the owner or owners of a well shall notify the authority concerned within 48 hours of the breakdown.

--The quantity of water consumed during the breakdown shall be indisputably determined by the authority concerned.

We can note here that the quantity of water allotted for each type of crop was reduced by 10 percent as of the beginning of April, with a dunum of citrus fruits thus getting 900 cubic meters instead of 1,000 cubic meters annually and a dunum of vegetables getting 630 cubic meters instead of 700 cubic meters annually. As for olives and guavas which require supplementary irrigation throughout the year, they get 270 cubic meters annually instead of the previous 300 cubic meters.

On the other hand, the Agriculture Department laws permit the change or replacement of a well only within a circle with a diameter of 20 meters. This being the case, replacement becomes meaningless, especially if the owner wants to change the well site because of an increase in chlorides.

Water Uses

We have not been able to obtain data on how Gaza Strip citizens use water. The available data deals only with the inhabitants' use of water for two main purposes: agricultural irrigation and home and industrial use.

In the following, we will deal with these two uses in detail, noting the scanty data available on water wells in the settlements.

First, Home and Industrial Use:

Home and industrial water consumption in the Strip ranges from 20-25 million cubic meters annually. The rest is used for agricultural irrigation.

Chart 7 demonstrates water distribution, quantities, and sources in the various areas. [11]

Chart 7. Water Distribution, Quantities, and Sources in the Various Areas According to the Latest Statistics

<u>Name of Area</u>	<u>Annual Water Consumption in Cubic Meters</u>	<u>Water Sources in Area</u>
Bayt Hanun Village	145,000	2 wells belonging to village council.
Bayt Lahiya Village	270,000	3 wells belonging to village council.
Jabaliya Area	900,000 (estimate)	2 wells belonging to council and several private wells supplying inhabitants with water on contract.
Gaza City	11,500,000	15 municipal wells.
Al-Nusayrat Camp	575,000	
Al-Burayj Camp	540,000	These areas rely on Mekorot Company for their water in general, especially since UNRWA wells in camps were shut down in 1983.
Al-Maghazi Camp	360,000	
Al-Zawayidah Village	228,000	From Israeli Mekorot Water Company.
Dayr al-Balah	1,460,000	3 municipal wells.
Al-Qararah Village	[No figure given]	Village council does not have any wells even though it has existed since 1983. Inhabitants rely on private wells.
Bani Suhayla Village	360,000	264,000 cubic meters from 2 village council wells and rest are purchased from Mekorot Company.
Smaller 'Absan Village	144,000	From single village council well and from Israeli Mekorot Water Company.
Greater 'Absan Village	324,000	From two council wells and from Israeli Mekorot Water Company.
Khaza'ah Village	144,000	From single council well and from Israeli Mekorot Water Company.
Khan Yunis Town	3,180,000	108,000 cubic meters from Mekorot Company, 90,000 cubic meters from private well, and rest from five municipal wells.
Rafah Town	26,350,000 [as published]	From 2 operating municipal wells. Four other municipal wells are broken down.

By examining the above chart, we find that the various areas' consumption for home and industrial use amounts to nearly 22 million cubic meters of water annually, according to readings taken from the meters in the areas. This figure excludes, of course, the water loss which results from the old water networks and other factors and which amounts to nearly 25 percent in Gaza and to 30 percent in Khan Yunis, Rafah, and Dayr al-Balah. We also find that the water used for home and industrial purposes does not actually exceed 18 million cubic meters annually. Before dividing this quantity among the 650,000 inhabitants of the Strip, we wish to point out here that the daily water consumption of the town of al-Majdal, which has a population of nearly 60,000 people, amounts to 18,000 cubic meters whereas the daily consumption of Khan Yunis, which has a population of nearly 100,000 people, amounts to about 8,000 cubic meters. I believe that this comparison alone is enough to demonstrate the degree of difference between the Gaza citizen's consumption and the consumption of any Israeli citizen.

At the same time, most of the areas suffer from water scarcity generally, from water salinity, or from both, as in the case of Khan Yunis City, Jabaliya, the central camps, and the villages of Eastern Khan Yunis.

The water problem does not stop at this point but goes beyond to the exorbitant prices at which the municipalities, the village councils, and the local councils sell water to the citizens. We will try here to shed light on the monthly prices at which water is sold to the citizens in some areas.[13]

Gaza City:

- Minimum to 10 cubic meters: 19 (agoras).
- From 10-20 cubic meters: 2 agoras per cubic meter.
- From 20-30 cubic meters: 2.5 agoras per cubic meter.

Khan Yunis City:

- Minimum to 20 cubic meters: 75 agoras.
- From 20-30 cubic meters: 35 agoras per cubic meter. The price for every cubic meter over the first 30 cubic meters is 45 agoras.

Rafah City:

- Minimum to 20 cubic meters: 55 agoras.
- From 20-30 cubic meters: 30 agoras per cubic meter.
- Over 30 cubic meters: 35 agoras per cubic meter.

In Bani Suhayla Village, water is sold to the citizens at the following prices:

- Minimum to 10 cubic meters: 4 new shekels.
- From 10-20 cubic meters: 6 agoras per cubic meter.
- From 20-30 cubic meters: 8 agoras per cubic meter. A price of 10 agoras is charged for every cubic meter over the first 30 meters.

As for the central camps (al-Burayj, al-Maghazi, al-Nusayrat, and al-Zawayidah) and for the other villages which rely on the Israeli Mekorot Water Company to supply them with water, the company sells water to the municipal and village councils at 5.3 agoras per cubic meter and the village councils and local committees then sell the water to the citizens at astronomical prices. For example, al-Burayj Camp Local Committee sells water to the citizens as follows:

- From 1-10 cubic meters: 6.7 agoras per cubic meter.
- From 10-20 cubic meters: 7.4 agoras per cubic meter.
- From 20-30 cubic meters: 7.6 agoras per cubic meter.
- Over 30 cubic meters: 8.9 agoras per cubic meter.

On the other hand, there are scattered areas that suffer from the irregular availability of drinking water, such as the remote areas of al-Qararah Village in Khan Yunis District. This village has a population of nearly 5,000 people and it has had a village council since the middle of 1983. However, the council has not yet supplied the inhabitants with any water source, thus forcing them to rely on private wells to meet their domestic needs. Even though the Jabaliya Village Council has two wells to supply the population, we find that hundreds of families rely on private wells because the inhabitants' needs greatly exceed the capacity of the two wells.

We also find that the private well of Abu Mas'ud (the village council chief) supplies water 1 hour a day to nearly 150 families at a monthly cost of 7 new shekels per subscriber.

The well of Farah Ahmad Husniyah supplies water 1 hour a day to nearly 200 families at a cost of 1.2 agoras per cubic meter.

The well of Abu Yusuf al-Bahtimi (al-Hasayinah well) operates for 2 hours a day at a capacity of 60 cubic meters per hour to serve nearly 40 homes. In return, the inhabitants supply fuel oil and maintenance for the well.

Abu Rashid well operates 18 hours a day at a capacity of 120 cubic meters per hour to supply water to nearly 1,000 subscribers. The well owner pumps water for 1 hour a day through each waterline in return for a monthly subscription of 7 new shekels per subscriber.

The well of 'Abd-al-Latif Zahir operates 7-8 hours a day and pumps water, without meters, through 5 waterlines to nearly 650 subscribers, supplying each line with water for 1 hour a day in return for a monthly subscription of 7 new shekels per subscriber. The owners of these wells have said in comment: Many citizens ask us to help them and supply them with water. But the capacity of the wells and the available resources do not permit us to produce more water.

This example demonstrates to us the tragedy of the Jabaliya area inhabitants and the difficulty of obtaining the simplest necessities of life.

We must note here that the Jabaliya Village Council was negative with us when we conducted this study and that this is why we inserted the word "estimate" with the figure we gave for the Jabaliya area in Chart 7.

As for the Bayt Lahiya Village Council, it supplies the inhabitants with water according to a good program which covers parts of the village. The village inhabitants await the completion of a fourth water well in an endeavor to eliminate the water crisis.

UNRWA also contributes to supplying some of the camps with water from six wells distributed as follows:

- Two wells in the Jabaliya area, one of which produces water unfit for drinking. The two wells operate 7 hours a day and supply the centers under UNRWA control and some of the camp inhabitants.
- One well in al-Shati' Camp, which operates for 2 hours a day.
- One well in Dayr al-Balah Camp, which operates for 4 hours a day.
- One well in Khan Yunis Camp, which operates for 8 hours a day, and one well in Rafah Camp, which operates for 8 hours a day.

Second, Agricultural Consumption:

As we noted when discussing the underground water resources, the Strip population has increased its underground water consumption with the growth of irrigated agriculture, especially the cultivation of citrus trees, and with the shift from crops relying on rainwater to crops relying on irrigation, such as vegetables. This is in addition to the non-agricultural factors leading to expansion.

According to the 1985 figures, the total area of Gaza Strip is nearly 360,000 donums, of which nearly 214,000 donums are utilized in agriculture and distributed as follows:

- A total of 65,000 donums cultivated with citrus fruit trees, all irrigated.
- A total of 30,000 donums cultivated with fruits, all irrigated.

- A total of 35,000 donums cultivated with vegetables, all irrigated.
- A total of 24,000 donums cultivated with crops and vegetables relying on rainwater. The rest consists of forests.

It is obvious from the above that the total irrigated acreage amounts to 130,000 donums representing nearly 63 percent of the total cultivated acreage in Gaza Strip, including the forests. Gaza Strip's water consumption for agricultural purposes amounts to nearly 75 million cubic meters, representing 75-80 percent of the total volume of water drawn from the underground water reservoir--a volume amounting to nearly 100 million cubic meters annually.

Amidst this stifling water crisis in Gaza Strip, the Israeli Regional Water Company, Mekorot, drilled 31 wells in the southern part of the Strip and in the Israeli settlements to serve the settlers and their crops, even though it is said that this company supplies the inhabitants with drinking water only, i.e., for home and industrial use. These wells are concentrated south of Dayr al-Balah, located at a distance of nearly 1 km from the coastline and extend all the way to the city of Rafah. Their distribution is demonstrated in Chart 8.

Chart 8. Distribution of Wells in Israeli Settlements

<u>Name of Settlement or Area</u>	<u>Number of Wells</u>
Jadid	10
Qatif	7
Kefar Darom	2
Nitzarim	2
Morag	1
West Khan Yunis	5
Southwest Dayr al-Balah	4
Total	31

Here we must remind our readers of what the UNRWA commissioner general notes in connection with the Gaza Strip water problem in his current annual report to the UN General Assembly, which will convene shortly. After reviewing the generally poor conditions under which the Strip's refugee population suffers, the commissioner states in his report:

"There is another fearful development in Gaza Strip, namely the increased salinity in the water supplies resulting from the expansion of irrigation and of other engineering activities. Some experts estimate that the volume of the underground water pumped out is twice the volume of the water seeping into the underground. This fact, and the need for a satisfactory system for draining flood water, increase the threat of pollution in an area in which some camps live under unhealthy environmental conditions. The continued construction of settlements in Gaza Strip is likely to add to the unsatisfactory living conditions by reducing the area of land available for cultivation and by increasing the pressure on the inadequate water resources."

The general commissioner added: "I believe that it is my duty to draw the member states' attention to the worsening conditions in Gaza Strip and to urge the international community to devote significant attention to what can be done to ease the conditions there. This problem requires urgent attention."

The intensity of the water problem being experienced by Gaza Strip has been increased by the high population density and by external factors, such as the Israeli settlements which have received full support from the authorities to devour the land and its water at a time when the officials preach the seriousness of the water problem, as if they have not contributed to the problem, have not used feeble pretexts to increase the water's salinity through excessive consumption of underground water, and have not failed to put an end to this constant drain that has been caused by the settlements. The emergence of underground water salinity coincides with the beginning of the concentration on settlement in Gaza Strip in the second half of the 1970's.

In conclusion, we say that the Gaza Strip water problem is characterized by the scarcity of the data available on the problem. However, some studies have been conducted on water conditions in the Strip and we have deemed it beneficial to list them here:

1. A soil and water study sponsored by UNRWA within the framework of its plan to set up agricultural expansion projects and conducted by an Egyptian land expert in 1953-54.
2. A study conducted in 1958 by an exploratory mission of the Egyptian Desert Institute.
3. Dr Hume's study in 1917 on the water resources of the Gaza Valley area and Rafah.
4. Dr Jordan's 1946 study on Arab wells in the Negev area of Palestine.
5. A study conducted by UNRWA in 1954 with the Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture.
6. A study conducted by Dr Joseph Weinbaz, who held the position of chairman of the Israeli Department of Land Organization and who was a member of the Jewish Agency's Agriculture and Planning Department in 1944. The study is entitled "The Agricultural Potentials of Palestine," Tel Aviv, 1944.

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1. Mahmud 'Abd-al-Halim 'Asim, "Agriculture in Gaza," Egyptian Ministry of Agriculture, 1960.
2. The Agriculture Department, varied periodical publications.

3. Rural Studies Center of al-Najah National University in Nabulus, "The Annual Statistical Report on the West Bank and Gaza Strip."
4. Jihad Abu Tawilah, Arab Research and Studies Center, unpublished study, Cairo, 1984.
5. The Agriculture Department, Falah Yunis, "Agricultural Development."
6. Muhammad 'Ali Khulusi, "Economic Development in Gaza Strip," Cairo, 1967.
7. The Official Statistical Report for Gaza Strip, 1964.
8. 'Abd-al-Rahman Abu 'Arafah, "Settlement," Jerusalem, 1981.
9. Firas Sawalihah, "Citrus Production."
10. Strip's municipalities, village councils, and local committees.

8494/9604

CSO: 4404/44

BRIEFS

MILITARY APPEALS COURT PRESIDENT--Brigadier General Ben-tziyon Farhi, the outgoing military advocate general, was yesterday appointed president of the military court of appeals instead of Major General David Maymon who has been appointed Prison Authority commissioner. This is the first time that a jurist has been appointed to such a post and it follows the recommendations made by the Shamgar Commission over a year ago in the wake of which the military justice law on the issue was amended. [Text] [Tel Aviv HA'ARETZ in Hebrew 24 Nov 86 p 1 TA] /9738

NEW KNESSET MEMBER--'Oded (Dedi) Zucker is of today the new Citizens Rights Movement Knesset member, replacing Mordekhay Bar-on who retired voluntarily. [Excerpt] [Tel Aviv IDF Radio in Hebrew 1500 GMT 1 Dec 86 TA] /9738

LEBANESE WORKERS IN ISRAEL--Many factories in northern Israel want to employ workers from southern Lebanon because attempts to attract Israeli workers have been to no avail. At the same time, pressure by southern Lebanese residents to work in Israel is increasing due to unemployment there. About 900 Lebanese residents are employed in Israel today, and their employment was arranged by the Employment Service. Reference is not only to seasonal or temporary jobs but also to production work in factories. [Text] [Jerusalem Domestic Service in Hebrew 1000 GMT 1 Dec 86 TA] /9738

CSO: 4400/64

JORDAN'S AL-FAYIZ REVIEWS OFFICIAL TALKS

JN281929 Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 28 Nov 86

[Text] Paris--'Akif al-Fayiz, speaker of the House of Representatives, has said that we hope France will always support the Arab causes in its capacity as an important member of the United Nations and the EC. During a meeting with a Jordanian press delegation at the French-Jordanian Friendship Society [in Paris], al-Fayiz said: We felt an understanding from the French side on regional issues and their insistence on the need to achieve a comprehensive and just peace within the framework of an international conference.

Al-Fayiz added: During my talks with French officials, I affirmed that Jordan will not enter any direct or separate talks with Israel, and that the only framework for any negotiation process must be through an international conference to be attended by the permanent members of the UN Security Council in addition to all parties to the regional conflict including the PLO, the sole, legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. He added: The French know the Jordanian stand well and it was asserted to the French officials by His Majesty King Husayn as well as by Prime Minister Zayd al-Rifa'i during his recent visit to Paris.

Al-Fayiz said: We have noticed that the French Government and French parliamentarians firmly support Iraq's stand on the war represented by the need to achieve a peaceful settlement of the war. They are also putting pressure on the Iranian regime to respond to peace calls. He added: They affirm that their contacts with the Iranians in this regard will not be at the expense of their strong relations with Iraq and the Arab world. He continued: The French will not damage their political credibility in dealing with Iran and will not embark on any act that can kindle the war.

Al-Fayiz noted that the visit by the Jordanian parliamentary delegation was received with profound hospitality. The visit will have its Arab dimensions because Jordan chairs the current Arab Parliamentary Union session. The visit will also have an international dimension because Jordan is a member of the IPU.

/9738
CSO: 4400/66

AMMAN RADIO CARRIES 25 NOVEMBER WEST BANK PROGRAM

[Editorial Report] Amman Domestic Service in Arabic at 1215 GMT on 25 November carries a new 23-minute episode of the weekly program "the Occupied Homeland; News and Views." This week's episode begins with the following announcement.

"Brothers in the occupied homeland; peace and blessings of God be upon you. We praise you for your steadfastness on your land and your confrontation of the wild campaigns to uproot you from the land of your forefathers and destroy your pure Arab identity. We praise you while you confront the violent attacks of extremist settlers in occupied Jerusalem and through out occupied Arab land, confirming your ability to resist and confront the occupation with the weapons of steadfastness, patience, and insistence on sticking to the land."

The announcement is followed by a 12-minute report on an open meeting held on 24 November at the invitation of the American University of Beirut's alumni club in Amman in which Marwan Dudin, minister of the occupied territory affairs, talks about the policy of continued contacts with the kinfold in the occupied territory. The report includes recorded excerpts from Dudin's speech at the meeting.

The announcer says Dudin talks about the policy of open bridges which enjoyed Arab consensus at the 1978 Baghdad summit. The radio then carries the following recorded excerpt from Dudin's speech:

"At the Baghdad summit in 1978, there was Arab recognition and appreciation of the Jordanian open bridges policy which expresses the will of the Arab nation and the desire of the Palestinian Arab people to preserve, amid hard and abnormal circumstances, the minimum degree of contacts with the Arab nation through their relationship with Jordan. The open bridges policy and the support of the people there working in agriculture, industry, and production in general, through the systematic importation of West Bank products through the East Bank, is not only a unanimous Arab decision, but is also blessed by the PLO.

"The summit conference also admitted that Jordan, with its limited resources, is unable to continue to shoulder alone financial responsibility for supporting the kinfolk and that there must be an Arab position supporting the Jordanian effort."

The announcer then says Dudin said Jordan will not abandon its pan-Arab commitment. This is followed by another recorded excerpt from the minister's speech in which he refers to King Husayn's recent speech from the throne asserting continuous support for the people in the occupied territory.

He adds: "Jordan still considers the West Bank an indivisible part of it. With the exception of seeking a final solution to the Palestine question, Jordan will disregard unfair criticism and will accept guiding and friendly criticism."

Dudin then talks about the Jordanian 5-year development plan and the Jordanian development conference recently held in Amman.

On the conference, the minister of occupied territory affairs says: "All which happened in the conference encourages Jordan to press ahead with its plan. All those attending had a positive stand. We did not ask them before or during the conference to make any promises to extend any grants or loans to support the East or West Bank development plan. Instead, we asked the delegates to deal with the plan as something open to discussion and argument. Besides, the conference was aimed at preparing for holding bilateral contacts which we hope will succeed in securing the required funds."

On why the development plan for the West Bank comes at this time in particular, Marwan Dudin says: "We have been supporting the West Bank since 1967. However, we did not call this support a development program as it was carried out on an annual basis and included in the annual state budget. Now, it is very important to think ahead and to try to link the economy of the West Bank as much as possible to the economy of the East Bank to avoid the domination of the Israeli economy over the West Bank economy."

The minister then reviews the situation in the Gaza Strip, its population, and demographic distribution.

Next is 3-minute interview with Bassan Musa Bamyah, director of the Ramallah Agriculture Department. Bamyah notes the importance of the development program for the West Bank. On the marketing of agricultural products, Bamyah says: "We asked officials of the occupied territory affairs office of the Ministry of Agriculture to open Arab and foreign markets for products of Arab farmers in the West Bank and to provide facilities and special arrangements for exportation. We also asked for special support for agrarian industrialization. We also asked for special committees to supervise the implementation of the 5-year development plan."

The program concludes with a 7-minute interview with Dr Sa'id Shahin, Nabulus health director, and Dr 'Abd al-Rahman Shunnar, director of Rifidiyah Hospital in Nabulus. Dr Shahin hopes the development plan will include programs to support preventive measures, including vaccination. On health services included in the development plan, Dr Shahin says: "The plan stipulates the establishment of more clinics in the occupied territories to cover all the

territories in the next 5 years." He adds: "We currently cover one-third of the villages. The plan will cover the rest. Priority will be given to villages having higher populations."

Dr 'Abd al-Rahman Shunnar says: "Hospitals in the West Bank, the northern area, and Nabulus in particular need constant and great assistance. The 5-year development plan has taken this into consideration." He then notes that hospitals and their equipment need continuous maintenance. He says the Rafidiyah Hospital is under continuous pressure and needs to expand to meet citizens' needs. He adds a larger staff at the hospital is needed.

/9738

CSO: 4400/66

JORDAN

BRIEFS

AGREEMENT WITH SEISMOLOGICAL TEAM--Amman--SAWT AL-SHA'B--The government has signed an agreement to charter a team for seismological survey with a U.S. company to carry out seismological survey operations for 1 year at a cost of approximately 1 million Jordanian dinars. The U.S. seismological survey team will survey approximately 2,500 square km in the Al-Jafr area outside the borders of the U.S. Hunt Company. The team will reconsider surveys in Hamzah area. Jordanian cadres from the Natural Resources Authority will participate in the surveys with the aim of preparing and training them on survey operations so as to form a Jordanian cadre capable of carrying out seismological survey operations. [Text] [Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 23 Nov 86 pp 1, 17] /9604

1987 BUDGET FIGURES--Amman (SAWT AL-SHA'B)--SAWT AL-SHA'B has learned that the kingdom's budget for 1987 amounts to approximately 1.031 billion dinars representing an increase of 107.3 million dinars over this year's budget, which amounted to 923.7 [million dinars], an increase of 11.7 percent. SAWT AL-SHA'B also learned that the deficit in next year's budget amounts to about 76 million dinars, thus exceeding this year's deficit by 38.4 million dinars. [Excerpt] [Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 25 Nov 86 pp 1, 17] /9604

AMBASSADOR TO INDONESIA--Djakarta--Indonesian President Suharto has received the credentials of Nayif Mawla, the first Jordanian ambassador to Indonesia. [Summary] [Amman Domestic Service in Arabic 1600 GMT 20 Nov 86 JN] /9738

TEMPORARY JORDANIAN PASSPORTS ISSUED--Interior Minister Raja'i al-Dajani has agreed to grant 361 citizens from the occupied Gaza Strip residing in Jordan temporary Jordanian passports valid for three years. This step is aimed at helping brother Gazans. [Article by Nayif al-Ma'ani] [Text] [Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 1 Dec 86 p 1 JN] /9738

FOREIGN AID TO INCREASE--SAWT AL-SHA'B has learned that the Arab financial aid for 1987 is estimated at 183 million dinars compared to 143.7 million in 1986. The aid Saudi Arabia will extend to Jordan in 1987 is estimated at 80 million dinars compared to 80.3 million in 1986; Kuwait will extend 17 million dinars compared to 8.6 million in 1986; the UAE will extend 17 million dinars compared to 14.4 million in 1986; the Sultanate of Oman will extend 20 million dinars compared to 59.39 million in 1986; and the United States will extend 49 million compared to 114 million in 1986. [Figures for U.S. aid as published] [Text] [Amman SAWT AL-SHA'B in Arabic 1 Dec 86 p 1, 19 JN] /9738

CSO: 4400/66

AID TO BENEFIT ISLAM IN AFRICA EVALUATED

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 8 Oct 86 p 2

[Article by Muhammad al-Shamri: "Board of Trustees of the African Islamic Center Concluded its Meetings Yesterday"]

[Text] His Highness Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallan al-Salim al-Sabah, expressed his appreciation for the activities of the African Islamic Center in connection with the Islamic Call and the performance of its exalted mission. His Highness wished success and blessing on the efforts of those in charge of this center and the other sincere, active efforts to promote Islam and the interests of muslims.

This was contained in a message His Highness sent in reply to a message of thanks he received from the chairman of the 25th session of the board of trustees of the African Islamic Center. Here is its text:

His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the respected prime min'ster.

On the occasion of the holding of the 25th session of the board of trustees of the African Islamic Center in Kuwait, the board is happy to convey to you best wishes and to express to Your Highness its thanks and appreciation to your noble person and your respected government for the kind hospitality and pleasant accommodations and for your profound interest in the mission of the center and its Islamic activity, which we felt during the board members' meeting with Your Highness.

Your constant care and efforts to support the Islamic Call in Africa and the Islamic World, which benefit from continuing the center and its steady growth, cause us to ask God to give you a good reward and continued success.

The Board of Trustees of the African Islamic Center
One of whom is Chairman of the Session
Muhammad Nasir al-Hamdan

On another aspect, the board of trustees of the African Islamic Center in Khartoum concluded the meetings of its 25th session, held in Kuwait from 4 to 8 October, 1986. The final meeting was begun yesterday morning in the Kuwait

Hilton, chaired by the chairman of the session, deputy minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, Muhammad Nasir al-Hamdan. In this meeting the final decisions and concluding recommendations were formulated. The chairman, Muhammad Nasir al-Hamdan, announced at the final session yesterday that the center's board of trustees had reached a number of important decisions. These include an agreement in principle on authorization to commission a female visiting doctor, with the provision that the directorate of the center submit a detailed study to the next board meeting. There was also agreement on creating a new position, that of "maintenance technician."

The board decided not to touch the teaching plan licensed by the board of trustees, leaving the details of carrying out the plan to the center's directorate.

Also, it was decided to submit to the board of trustees in the next meeting the matter of accepting the graduates with diplomas in the two colleges and the various considerations that pertain to this. Al-Hamdan explained that this decision was made after the center had the system of secondary studies. A 2-year diploma for teaching and a 2-year diploma for the Call were begun, but now we have decided to establish a college. Those who have graduated from the center have returned to their countries and want to return to the center. Are they to be accepted or not? This is why the decision was made to submit a memorandum to the board of trustees at the next meeting about accepting graduates with diplomas.

He said that the new system of study in the new college under the center is a 4-year one and the graduate will obtain a bachelor's degree. This is a university certificate.

The board of trustees also agreed that the center's directorate shall continue the procedures of operating the printing shop on a trial basis for a year and shall submit a detailed report to the next meeting of the board and that this must not result in any financial commitments of the center with regard to assigning workers for more than 6 months.

Al-Hamdan stated that the center's board of trustees also decided to retain the time restriction specified in a previous decision connected with financing scholarships for higher studies to center graduates, but excepted individual cases to be submitted by memorandum to the board. He said that in the past we have stipulated that a student who graduates from the university after studying at the center work in his homeland for 2 years before studying at the center in order to receive assistance with a scholarship for higher studies. Therefore we want him to put forth efforts to do field work there and for us to see the extent of his commitment to the knowledge he has gained as well as his responses to his learning. For this reason we have concluded that he shall work in his own country for 2 years, after which he can submit a request for assistance and the assumption of the costs of his schooling in the form of a scholarship.

This decision requires each one who has graduated to perform for his country and his homeland the duty of service. Also, the African Islamic Center is concerned that these students who have studied there return, after their graduation, to their homelands and be the True Advocates. So this is the reason leading to establishing this, namely, we are aiming at spreading Islam and the Call and not at the pride of erudition, which is vain. The board also agreed to authorize \$24,000 for a group of young African muslims, and it agreed that married students travel to their homeland each year, and likewise, those with outstanding grades. Al-Hamdan stated that hereby there is incentive for the young men to enroll at the center despite marriage, as well as incentive to compete in learning and to obtain the highest ranks possible. The board of trustees approved a plan to accept 250 students for the AH 1407 - 1408 school year, in addition to the present students receiving their schooling at the center in the following way:

From muslims in Djibouti, 5 students; Kenya, 8; Tanzania and Zanzibar, 15; Uganda and the refugees, 15; Ethiopia, 5; Oromo muslims, 5; Eritrea, 12; Mozambique, 5; Comoros Islands, 10; Malawi, 5; Chad, 15; Nigeria, 20, Bururdi and Rwanda, 5; Mali, 8; Senegal, 10; Guinea Conakry, 6; Gambia, 8; Zambia and the South African States, 10; the Sudan, 27; Ghana, 5; Sierra Leone, 5; Liberia, 5; Central African Republic, 4; Zaire, 5; Somalia, 8; the Ivory Coast, 5; Burkina Faso, 5; Benin, 5; Niger, 5; and various countries, 4. This amounts to 250 students.

The board agreed to renew the term of service of the deputy director for financial and administrative affairs, Mahjub Muhammad al-Husayn, for 3 years.

The board decided that the authority for appointing the deans of the colleges belongs to the board of directors. It also decided to add the deans of colleges to the administrative council by virtue of their posts.

The board agreed on the following for membership in the administrative council of the center: Professor Ahmad Muhammad Kabush, deputy minister of education in the Sudan; Professor 'Abd-al-Rahman al-Tayyib, deputy director of Khartoum University; Professor Hasan al-Fatih Qarib-Allah, director of Umm Durman University; Mahdi al-Falaki, deputy governor of the Central Sudanese Bank; Dr al-Tayyib Zayn al-'Abidin, former director of the center; and the current professor at Khartoum University who heads the center's administrative council, director of the center Dr Ibrahim Abu 'Abah, who is assigned from the al-Imam Muhammad Ibn Sa'ud Islamic University in Saudi Arabia. When investment of the interest from shares and real estate investment was proposed, the board concluded that a detailed study would be presented on investment in various fields at a later meeting.

This is in addition to other administrative and organizational decisions pertaining to the center. The instructions and decisions of the meeting were signed by the chairman and members of the board of trustees. They are:

From Kuwait: Muhammad Nasir al-Hamdan and Badr al-Mutayri.

From Qatar: Shaykh 'Abdullah Ibn Ibrahim al-Ansari.

From Saudi Arabia: Amin 'Aqil al'Attas and Dr Sa'ud Ibn Muhammad al-Bashar.

Egypt: Dr 'Abdullah 'Abd-al-Shakur Kamil.

The Sudan: Dr 'Abdallah Muhammad Daf'allah and Shaykh 'Uthman Ahmad 'Abd-al-Razzaq.

The Emirates: Hasan Salim 'Abdullah al-Husni and 'Ali Muhammad al-'Ajlal.

From the center: Dr Ibrahim Ibn Muhammad Abu 'Abah, director of the center.

Morocco: Not represented at the meetings of this session. Note that Morocco is included in the seven countries that founded the center.

At the conclusion of the reading of the texts of the decisions and instructions the chairman of the session, the deputy minister of Awqaf and Islamic Affairs, Muhammad Nasir al-Hamdan, said that Kuwait, which has provided and continues to provide everything that would tend to raise the banner of Islam and unify the influence of muslims in the way of various kinds of aid to all the Islamic centers and foundations to foster a more intense desire to make use of this aid for the good of Islam and the muslims, especially on the continent of Africa, which is undergoing a fierce Christian missionary onslaught in addition to the great amount of other destructive appeals that are displaying their wares and exploiting the circumstances of the African people and their need for food, medicine, and training, calls upon all experts in the fields of Islamic missionary activity to concentrate efforts to revitalize the African people with Islam, the religion of love, brotherhood, work, justice and peace.

And he said, speaking to the members of the board of trustees at the final session, perhaps you felt yesterday (2 days ago) through your meeting with His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, may God protect him, that he has shown great understanding of the magnitude of the task put upon the shoulders of those working in the field of Islamic missionary activity, as His Highness affirmed that Kuwait will not scrimp on any type of aid needed by the Islamic nation.

He added: And we welcome you at the conclusion of our meetings in Kuwait. We pray that God will grant us all success in what he wants and approves and that he will give us victory over the enemies of the nation of Islam through strengthening us and granting us success in spreading the truth and setting forth Islam with contemporary clarity to all peoples of the land through our African Islamic center and through our other Islamic establishments.

He mentioned the fact that the Kuwaiti and Saudi governments are continuing to send aid to the center, non-stop, in addition to the other founding countries.

He said: This comes about through the efforts and follow-up of the members of the board of trustees, each in his own country, and spurring perseverance in these countries in continuing their aid after the importance of financial participation in running the affairs of the center and realizing the objectives for which it was established was explained. He added: We can say that now the center is not preoccupied with financial problems after it has finished settling down, but only with the need to increase efforts to continue Islamic activity on the African continent.

He made it clear that all who work in the field of Islamic missionary work undertake their activities believing that the results of these efforts and the reward for this activity is from God the Sublime. That is to say, the muslim does not ask about results but asks about the work: the results are in the hand of God the Advocate: "And God is master over his affairs, but most people do not understand." So we ask God to manifest his religion over the whole of religion and support His soldiers, that it have power for this, and be equal to the task.

On another note, yesterday evening each of the members of the board of trustees left, one after another, for his own country. The Saudi delegation left precisely at 5 pm yesterday, and at 7 pm the Emirates delegation, the Sudanese delegation, and the Qatari delegation left.

This evening the delegation of the Arab Republic of Egypt is to leave after the conclusion of the session meetings, which were scheduled to end this morning, but the board members managed to condense the time throughout the intensive meetings, which began from the first day of the meetings (last Saturday) and continued until yesterday morning, when all the subjects on the agenda were completed.

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HEALTH MINISTER TO PROVIDE AID TO ARAB WORLD

Kuwait AL-SIYASAH in Arabic 7 Oct 86 p 3

[Article: "Dr al-'Awadi Tasked with Collecting \$15 Million from Kings and Presidents of Islamic States to Build an Arab Hospital in Jerusalem"]

[Text] Last Friday evening, in Kuwait, the meetings of the 49th session of the executive office of the Arab council of health ministers were concluded. They were held under the chairmanship of Dr 'Abd-al-Rahman 'Abdallah al-'Awadi, Kuwaiti minister of public health and chairman of the executive office.

Participating in the activities of this session, which began 1 October 1986, were the health ministers of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, the Republic of Iraq, and the Kingdom of Morocco. There were delegations from the State of Bahrain and the Republic of Tunisia, in addition to the Kuwaiti delegation, headed by the health minister. Also, there was a delegation from the UN Fund for Population Invigoration, the secretary general of the Crescent and the Arab Red Cross, the assistant secretary general of the Arab center for health documents and printed matter, and a representative of the secretary general of the Arab League. The secretariat of the meeting acted as the technical secretariat of the council, and this session of the executive office issued a number of decisions. The executive office praised the outstanding national humanitarian role played by His Excellency Dr 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Awadi in establishing the underpinnings of the joint Arab health activity.

The Commissioning of Dr al-'Awadi

In regard to facilitating the movement of aid units and materials between the Arab states without difficulty or delay, Dr al-'Awadi will make endeavors with the proper agencies in the Arab homeland to create an Arab organization that will be responsible for obtaining this assistance ahead of the relief convoys.

Concerning the support of the health services in Lebanon and the support of the Lebanese people who are holding out in the South, the executive office implores all Lebanese factions to facilitate the passage of the medical and humanitarian aid provided by the Arab states and to ensure its reaching the civilians who are in urgent need of it. Besides this, Dr al-'Awadi will pursue contacts with the Lebanese government for building the hospital which the council of Arab health ministers agreed to build in Beirut.

In connection with supporting the health services of the Palestinian Red Crescent Society, the executive office implores the Arab states to continue to provide the necessary aid to the society so it can provide the medical and humanitarian aid to the Palestinian people.

A Hospital in Jerusalem

In regard to its studies on the aspects of stepping up efforts for the Arabs who are under the Zionist occupation and boosting the level of health services for the Arabs under (control) of the occupation, the executive office took a number of steps with regard to this, and formed a ministerial committee, headed by Dr al-'Awadi, to approach the kings and presidents who will be participating in the Islamic conference to be held in Kuwait next January about securing a sum of about \$15 million for building an Arab hospital in Jerusalem to provide health services to our people in the occupied land, since the enemy authorities closed the (Hubis) hospital last year. This was the only Arab hospital to provide health services for about 150,000 people, most of whom are poor and have limited income.

The executive office reviewed the course being followed by the organizations springing from the council of Arab health ministers, such as the Arab council of medical specialties (headquartered in Damascus) and the Arab center for health documents and printed matter (headquartered in Kuwait). It adopted several measures, one of which was to urge the course of action on these two organizations that will lead to the realization of their hoped-for objectives.

Blood Transfusion

On the matter of raising the level of blood transfusion services, the executive office stressed the importance of cooperating in the second religious symposium on blood transfusion, which is to be held in Kuwait 18-19 November 1986. Its slogan is to be, "Developing Blood Transfusion Services in the Arab Homeland." The office assigned the advisory committee on blood transfusion the task of following up on study of a plan for coping with the disease "AIDS" and the developments that have come about on preventive measures for it on the international level.

The executive office established the recommendations issued by the second symposium on advancement in the professional health services which was held in Jordan in July 1986 under the title of preparing for and safety in utilizing insecticides.

Protection from Radiation

The executive office stressed the need for the Arab states to participate in the first symposium on protection from radiation, which is to be held in Baghdad in November. It is to concentrate on the experiences of the Arab states and the precautionary measures taken in the aftermath of the Chernobyl accident. A scientific opinion will be drawn up on protection from radiation and reducing the effects of exposure to it. The executive office has studied

the responsible steps in preparing the medical assistance cadres in the Arab homeland and has adopted a number of measures aimed at supporting the important health sector.

The Business of Medicine

The executive office also studied the subject of Arab medical concerns, and stressed the need for firmly establishing the underpinnings of a developing medicine industry in the Arab homeland within a strategy of drug production aimed at realizing drug safety in the Arab homeland. The matter of medicines was turned over to a committee of experts for the necessary technical studies, which will be submitted to the next session of the council of Arab health ministers. The executive office also called upon the Arab states to adopt legislation stipulating that it is not lawful to dispense drugs from pharmacies, especially antibiotics, without a medical prescription. The executive office reviewed the following measures taken by the Arab states to limit the use of alcohol in drugs because of the harmful effect alcohol has on health, especially the health of infants.

The executive office forwarded the unified Arab law on narcotics, which was agreed upon by the council of Arab interior ministers, to a technical committee for it to check the lists of narcotic drugs included in the law so that it would be in harmony and agreement with what the World Health Organization considers narcotic drugs.

Immunizing Children

The executive office established the basis and conditions which must be present in the research that is to be submitted in order to obtain prizes from the council of Arab health ministers, noting that the council's competition for 1986 centers on the field of vaccinating (checkup) children. The three top winners will receive monetary prizes and medals. They will be invited to receive their prizes during the regular session of the council of Arab health ministers.

In connection with its honoring Arab doctors and organizations that have shared in their country or the Arab homeland with the aim of promoting health services, the executive office has requested the Arab states to send the names of their candidates for this award. The office stipulated that the candidates not be persons holding official posts in the state.

Plan of Cooperating

The executive office established a plan of cooperation with the international and regional organizations, such as the World Health Organization and its regional office, the general secretariat for health of the council of health of the Arab Gulf states, and the UN Fund for Population Invigoration.

Health Legislation

The executive office instituted the publishing of health legislation in the Arab homeland that had been gathered from all Arab states and it has been indexed and classified. It will be made available in a single document by the end of this year.

In regard to studying the subject of systematizing human organ transplants the executive office affirmed the call for a technical, legal committee to draw up a legal Arab instrument that will regulate these operations. The office also agreed to submit the matter to the upcoming meetings of the World Health Organization in order to establish international legal machinery on this matter. The Kuwaiti delegation will bring up this matter at international meetings.

Conference on Childhood

The executive office agreed to participate in and attend the conference organized by the League of Arab States on childhood and growth in the Arab homeland owing to the importance of the results that will be produced by this conference and because the results are related to the concerns of the council of Arab health ministers.

The Next Session

At the conclusion of its work the executive office decided to hold its 50th session in Baghdad in January 1987 in order to follow up on studying whatever results it gets from the technical committees and to prepare the agenda for the 12th regular sessions as the council of Arab health ministers. These will be held in March 1987, and His Excellency Dr al-'Awadi has been asked to consult with his colleagues, the Arab health ministers, to decide on the meeting place. Messages of thanks and acknowledgement were sent by the executive committee to the state of Kuwait and were sent to His Highness Shaykh Jabir al-Ahmad al-Jabir, the amir of Kuwait and to His Highness Shaykh Sa'd al-'Abdallah al-Salim al-Sabah, the crown prince and prime minister.

Also the vice-chairman of the executive office, His Excellency Dr Sadiq Hamid 'Alush, the Iraqi minister of health sent a message of thanks and gratitude to his brother His Excellency Dr 'Abd-al-Rahman al-'Awadi, the Kuwaiti minister of Health of Kuwait, expressing his thanks for the welcome and gracious hospitality and for the facilities provided by Kuwait, which had a great effect on the success of the activities of the session.

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AGRICULTURE UNDERSECRETARY DISCUSSES POLICY, PROGRAMS

Riyadh AL-YAMAMAH in Arabic 1 Oct 86 pp 26-29

[Interview with Muhammad 'Ali Makki by Salman al-'Umari: "The Government Subsidizes All Crops, Not Only Wheat!"; date and place not specified]

[Text] Government agricultural subsidy is not confined to wheat alone. It extends to the rest of the agricultural production fields such as distribution of free fallow land to investors, agricultural machinery, agricultural loans, and dairy products and poultry, in addition to free agricultural services. This important explanation given to AL-YAMAMAH by Mr Muhammad 'Ali Makki, undersecretary of agriculture and water for agricultural affairs, may help clear the confusion in some people's minds that his majesty's government is only subsidizing wheat in the field of agricultural production. In this interview, his excellency also sheds more light on all problems of concern to farmers in the shade of the agricultural boom in the kingdom which has attained self-sufficiency in wheat, barley, dairy products, and poultry.

[Question] Wheat is one crop that receives total government subsidy and the kingdom, with God's help, now produces more than its needs of this crop. Why doesn't the ministry support other crops?

[Answer] I think there is some confusion in people's minds about this matter. His majesty's government subsidizes all fields of agricultural production at various rates. Wheat subsidy, however, differs from other agricultural production fields because the government buys it directly from the producers, stores and mills it, and then sells it in the form of flour and fodder. Therefore, state subsidy is manifested in the lucrative buying price it pays.

As for other agricultural products, producers sell it to consumers directly, but, as I have already mentioned, all other production fields receive indirect state subsidies. For example, the distribution of free fallow land to investors in any agricultural field is considered a subsidy. Moreover, all agricultural machinery is aided by the Agricultural Bank at rates of up to 50 percent of its value and this constitutes another form of subsidy. Furthermore, agricultural loans are considered a subsidy for any agricultural field and anyone who grows a specific number of palm trees under specific terms receives help for this agricultural endeavor. Anyone who grows barley, millet, or corn receives production aid and anyone who produces dairy

products receives aid in transporting his imported cattle by air at a rate almost equal to the value of the cattle. Likewise, poultry farmers are entitled to aid for troughs, incubators, and other equipment. Moreover, free agricultural services offered by the ministry such as guidance, disease, and insect control and veterinary services are a form of subsidy as well. Hence, it is apparent that the government has not limited its aid to wheat but indeed has extended it to all other agricultural fields, as I have explained.

[Question] What does the delay in delivering arable land grants to farmers signify and what are the reasons for the delay? Also, what is the percentage of cultivated land in the kingdom?

[Answer] There is no delay whatsoever in the delivery of arable land grants. Normal procedure is the cause of what is believed to be late delivery. Applicants believe that all it takes is for them to submit an application and the ministry will issue an investment decision. What they do not realize is that before any investment decision can be made the ministry has to adopt several measures that include but are not limited to the following:

1. Ascertain the availability of an adequate supply of water at the desired location.
2. Ascertain the suitability of soil for cultivation at the desired location.
3. Ascertain through principalities and area experts that the land in question is not grazing or sanctuary land.
4. Ascertain through local principalities the absence of tribal claims or disputes over the desired locations.
5. Ascertain through local municipalities that the desired land is not for housing development.
6. Ascertain by means of newspaper ads that must run for a specific period of time no less than 1 month that the desired land is free of any ownership claims.
7. Conduct surveys of the desired location and section it into divisions and streets, while linking it to the closest public road in the area.
8. Follow a selection process for applicants for the same location in accordance with the directives of the land cultivation system. This is done through local committees formed in the area and requires great efforts in obtaining adequate and accurate data on each applicant, including residency certification, size of family, annual income, proof that the applicant has not obtained land which he failed to cultivate and other data.
9. Selection process review by the ministry's central committee to ascertain strict compliance and scrupulous recommendations in selecting applicants.
10. Refer the matter to the minister and thereupon adopt, sign, and enact investment decisions. Some of the aforementioned procedures require much work

and time and can take 6 to 12 months to complete if no remonstrations or ownership and legal claims are not filed, for these actions delay distribution until claims are verified.

Regarding the area of cultivated land in proportion to arable land in the kingdom, it is no more than 30 percent and the uncultivated and undistributed land represents 70 percent.

[Question] Agricultural guidance is an important step in farmer education and support. What is the ministry doing in this regard?

[Answer] I could talk on and on about agricultural guidance, but will limit myself here to the most significant endeavors: the weekly TV programs with farmers; the morning radio program called "The Good Land;" the agricultural periodical; the educational documentary offered by the mobile movie vehicle; educational video tapes available at all ministry departments; the assignment of at least one agricultural technician to every agricultural branch of the ministry to provide guidance and conservation services and to serve all agricultural areas; establishment of educational fields by the farmers themselves to serve as models; special educational pamphlets; an agricultural library in every department; and the supply of seedlings for shade and fruit trees and vegetables at nominal prices.

[Question] In some seasons, disease and insects such as locusts kill a lot of crops. Can these be controlled?

[Answer] Damage done to crops is usually generated by the farmer himself. Either disease, insects, and locusts are not reported promptly or the ministry is expected to control them without any kind of contribution by farmers. Disregard for ministry directives for buying seeds and seedlings or for proper farming practices is also a factor. If farmers follow all the aforementioned procedures, crops in most cases will not be damaged.

[Question] Do you personally support the opening of more agricultural institutes in the kingdom and do you think that the one in Baridah has served its purpose?

[Answer] Yes. I strongly support the opening of agricultural institutes because the kingdom has suffered and will suffer a shortage of all kinds of technicians, namely, those who are between agricultural engineers and agricultural workers, and this is in all fields, including agriculture. This shortage will persist for the next 10 years or longer. There is no doubt that the model agricultural institute in Baridah has greatly eased this deficiency. It has been noted, however, that this institute focuses more on theory than on practice while the opposite is required even if it means adding an extra school year. It is noted as well that the majority of its students come from al-Qasim and indeed from Baridah itself. Consequently, all graduates want to work in their areas which is professionally impractical.

[Question] Do you think that the annual Tree Week observed in the country

has served its purpose? Also, why not take an interest in trees all year round rather than 1 week only and how many trees and shrubs have been planted in past weeks?

[Answer] These weeks have accomplished many of their objectives and have instilled in the hearts of children and youth a love and concern for trees and flowers. This phenomenon has been clearly manifested in the last 5 years in major cities and localities. As for year-round attention to trees, such a system is in place. Otherwise trees would have died 2 weeks after planting.

However, if you have in mind continuous planting, most kingdom climates do not permit that due to inclement weather conditions. As for trees and shrubs planted during the previous 9 Tree Weeks, the number is 3 million seedlings with a 60 to 98 percent success rate throughout the kingdom.

[Question] Gardens and parks add beauty and luster to any city. Can you tell us about the most significant garden and park projects you are implementing or plan to implement and why not coordinate with the Ministry of Municipalities projects for setting up gardens on land available inside the cities?

[Answer] The ministry does not have any gardens save for those around its buildings in Riyadh and other locations. As for parks, there is a special national parks department directly under the ministry in view of the importance of parks and the future plans for building parks that will be the talk of every town. We hope to fashion such parks after international ones, from the standpoint of offering all sorts of facilities the people would like to have, such as playgrounds, a mosque, a library, a flower garden, domesticated animals, singing birds, roads, snack bars, restaurants, and other things. This is in addition to shade trees, green grass, and cooking areas and, perhaps, swimming pools, athletic fields, and amusement centers. This is what we hope to accomplish in the future, God willing. At the present time, this is being implemented in several parks in 'Asir, al-Ihsa', and Khurays. Regarding the planting of gardens inside the cities, this falls under the jurisdiction of municipalities. Usually, each municipality has an agricultural bureau and we, on our part, do not begrudge guidance or assistance in planning and may even provide shade tree seedlings.

[Question] Does the ministry have a future plan to expand the green area in our country?

[Answer] Yes, there is a plan the ministry is following in three directions: replanting of trees and construction of existing ones in accordance with a special program based on an official system.

Second, replanting of pastures and conservation of existing ones and distribution of flood waters over as many pastures as possible by means of dams and dirt barriers.

Third, distribution of fallow land to people wishing to cultivate it after ascertaining the availability of water and good soil.

[Question] Nurseries play a significant role in raising production, but we do not find many of them in the kingdom. Why not set up an adequate number of nurseries?

[Answer] Governments are not good at running a business. This concept has been espoused by the ministry following several unsuccessful endeavors. Therefore, we do not seek to produce and sell to the citizenry except within the narrowest of boundaries. We always leave such dealings to the private sector. Since the production and marketing of seedlings is still in its infancy in the private sector, ministry nurseries are still in operation. In the year AH 1405-06, about 1 million seedlings were produced, 160,000 of which were fruit trees and the rest vegetables. This is in addition to shade and fruit tree seedlings the ministry imports from abroad and sells at cost or below cost. Therefore, we hope that the Saudi people will turn to the nursery business to produce fruit seedlings in particular at favorable prices. This is a good investment opportunity.

[Question] How successful are hothouse farming projects in the kingdom and do you support expansion in this field?

[Answer] Time and experience has proven that hothouse farming is successful and yields good returns if good management and marketing techniques are used. Since many areas lack adequate supplies of water, hothouse farming is considered a key element in such areas, particularly those close to major cities that supply large quantities of water amounting to over 75 percent of flood irrigation facilities. Therefore, I support expansion in this field as well as the wider use of spray irrigation to include trees as well.

[Question] What are the most significant services the ministry offers to Saudi farmers and do you think that such services are enough to achieve the objective?

[Answer] Services offered to Saudi farmers by the ministry are numerous and diverse and take a long time to explain. Therefore, I will limit myself to a brief explanation of some functions, including: permits to drill wells and supervision of drilling to ensure conformance with technical specifications; guidance, advice and assistance upon request in farm design and planning in all fields of animal and botanical farming; veterinary services, including free vaccinations; disease and insect control with the help of the farmers themselves or locust control in deserts and urban suburbs; construction of dams to provide water for drinking, farming, and pastures; anti-erosion measures; fresh water projects for cities and towns to be operated, maintained, and managed by water authorities or municipalities; tankers for supplying fresh water to towns where water is not available; testing of agricultural machinery and animal and agricultural production to ascertain quality and suitability before it hits the market; distribution of seedlings produced or imported by the ministry; distribution of bee colonies for the production of honey and instruction and guidance in setting up apiaries throughout the kingdom; study of fish resources to determine breeding cycles, habitats, fishing permits, and fishing net specifications and to provide guidance to fishermen concerning ministry findings; and review of economic feasibility studies submitted by citizens to notify them of any existing gaps

or to introduce changes that will render the project profitable and economical.

[Question] What project do you have in mind that you consider necessary for the agricultural community?

[Answer] The project I have in mind which I believe is of benefit to the agricultural community and hope to put into practice is the establishment of an agricultural joint-stock company with large capital and a board of directors composed of members known for loyalty, confidence, devotion, and good management to operate in three areas:

1. The cultivation of any new or cultivated farm land the owner is unable to cultivate due to the lack of capabilities or time in accordance with any agreed-upon arrangement such as partnership, profit-sharing, or other systems. I know several princes, ministers, and businessmen who do not have the know-how or the time to cultivate such land although they do have the financial means.

Second, marketing by means of collecting small farmers' production for marketing at the proper time in major and remote cities and towns, even though I hope that some companies will cover this field and that marketing will include the industrialization of agricultural surplus.

Third, the study of foreign markets and agricultural seasons for export purposes. The kingdom enjoys different climates that enable it to maintain year-round production while Europe, Africa, and most of Asia can only farm and produce during certain seasons due to the kind of climate they have.

In Saudi Arabia, during the cold winter, we can farm in warm regions such as Tihamah and al-Sahil and in the hot summer we have moderate and cold weather areas such as 'Asir, al-Bahal and the northern regions. If we can find foreign markets and identify their year-round needs, we can easily export to them at lucrative prices, especially since Saudi Arabia recently lowered domestic and international freight charges for agricultural products. I hope this wish will be realized soon with God's help.

12502

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ISLAMIC PUBLICATION'S VIEWS ON TERRORISM GIVEN

Riyadh AL-DA'WAH in Arabic 15 Sep 86 pp 14-18

[Article: "Terrorism: Tragedy of the Age"]

[Text] The historical roots of terrorism, as we have indicated, are as old as the world itself and cannot be traced to any particular stage in the history of mankind. If the armed assault against the commander of the faithful, 'Umar Ibn al-Khattab, the just caliph, and the poisoning of the commander of the faithful, Caliph 'Ali Ibn Abi Talib, can be considered a form of terrorism, we can begin from there. Assassinations go back much further than that.

'Uthman Ibn 'Affan's (the possessor of light) image of righteous blood transcends all historical milestones. It points to a kind of terrorism that assumed the form of vengeance that generated civil strife of proportions only known to God.

As for the Hashashin sect (a branch of the Isma'ili sect), they embarked on a series of terrorist acts that began with the conquest of the mountain fortress known as the "Citadel of Death" and sometimes as the "Eagle's Nest," at the hands of al-Hasan Ibn al-Sabah in 1090-91 when he turned it into a headquarters for his call and began getting rid of his enemies by assassination. Among his first victims were the renowned Seljuk vizier, Nizam al-Mulk. Perhaps the "hashish" (Indian hemp) session they used to have enhanced in their eyes and minds the idea of terrorism through assassination which has been the subject of numerous studies by historians, the orientalist in particular.

In 1793, the French Revolution that terrorized the monarchists broke out. It deposed King Louis XVI and chopped off his head along with Queen Marie Antoinette and put its opposition in jail. By the beginning of 1794, terrorism took on an official legitimate character through the revolutionary trials that were declared by the revolution's renowned orator and ideologue, Robespierre, who incited terrorism and assassination and was eventually led to the guillotine that had beheaded his adversaries.

In America, a new form of terrorism came into being. Racial terrorism, which manifested itself in the United States with the beginning of the 19th century,

right after the birth of racial movements, was aimed at terrorizing the negroes and the colored people in general (the terrorist Ku Klux Klan organization).

Then came the concept of Zionism which is basically founded on terrorism and racism. The "Lovers of Zion" organization was established in the middle of the 19th century through the assassination of Russian Czar Alexander II in 1881. The World Zionist Organization, which was formed in 1897, espoused the philosophy of terrorism to achieve its political and religious objectives. As far back as 1905, world Zionism sought, through all sorts of terrorist tactics (murder, bombings, assassination, extortion) employed by terrorist sub-organizations, to establish an entity on Palestinian soil. The history of terrorist organizations in Palestine is well-known and noteworthy.

Underground movements and czarist Russia paved the way for the Bolshevik Revolution in the Soviet Union in 1917 following the "Communist Manifesto" issued in 1848 that incited revolutionary violence. The "Liberation of Labor" society and, after it, the "League of Struggle for the Liberation of the Working Class, undertook, with Lenin's help, a large number of reprisals against the symbols of czarist power and the period from 1905 to 1907 witnessed terrorist massacres during which many people were executed. The terrorist struggle by the socialists continued until 1917 when the czarist regime was abolished and power fell into the hands of the advocates of revolutionary violence.

Terrorism Begets Terrorism

It is a self-evident fact that terrorism and violence beget nothing but terrorism and violence. So long as terrorism in its global form is supported by the major countries and the super powers of the world, small countries cannot remain silent as they see fit.

When the Zionists seize Palestinian land and Islamic holy places and attack other Arab lands, such as Lebanon, the Golan Heights, the nuclear reactor in Iraq, and the PLO headquarters in Tunis, it is necessary to respond on the same terrorist level.

Israel, during the war of attrition between Egypt and the Zionist enemy, shelled a school in Bahr al-Baqar, then colluded on and engineered the Sabra and Shatilla massacres and is still tinkering with Lebanon. This clearly means that the western world looks through two different glasses and uses double standards. If it really wants terrorism to stop, it would have put a stop to its causes and motives and eradicated its sources and the righteous people of the world would have answered the following questions that are begging for an answer:

--What is the source of terrorism?

--How can it be stopped?

--What is its magnitude?

--How can individual terrorism be checked while world terrorism, in its armed collective form of airplanes, missiles, tanks, and border invasions, remains unchecked?

Undoubtedly, if the world fails to supply the answers to these fundamental questions, terrorism will survive any time and anywhere.

The UN Defines Terrorism

It is regrettable that the United Nations, that ailing world organization, has issued a unanimous decision defining and condemning terrorism. It has failed, however, to do anything else, although we are impelled by a sense of fairness to recognize the courage of classification and formulation. Following is the issue in detail:

--On the 40th anniversary of the UN celebrated a few years ago, the General Assembly issued a collective resolution condemning terrorism and viewing it as a criminal act regardless of the circumstances surrounding it, where it is committed, and who the perpetrators are.

It is only fair that the bill's preamble stipulate the reaffirmation of the legitimacy of national liberation movements in the sense that their anti-colonialist and anti-foreign occupation activities and their efforts at foreign occupation activities and their efforts to attain independence are legitimate and, therefore, fall within the framework of the resolution because they differ from terrorism in spirit and content.

It was natural that the PLO representative should describe the resolution as a distinctive historical milestone on the road of sincere efforts being made by the international organization to put a stop to criminal acts represented by Israeli terrorism within and outside the occupied territory.

Cuba was the only country to vote against the resolution while Israel abstained. There is no doubt that the Israeli position was in keeping with its policy which is based on terrorism.

It is noted, however, that the resolution proceeded on the same path followed by most other General Assembly resolutions from the standpoint of being merely a document kept in a file to be cited whenever necessary which means a stay of implementation which in turn means that terrorism will not come to an end.

Terrorism and the Repertoire of Diplomatic Rhetoric

World terrorism has a special connotation in the repertoire of diplomatic rhetoric. Western academicians have been concerned with the corruption of the meaning of terrorism by political groups and governments wishing to brand their enemies as terrorists, but not their friends and, naturally, not themselves (quoted from a special file on terrorism published in the Kuwaiti AL-QABAS newspaper on 26 December 1985). A retired British general summed up his explanation of terrorism by citing an old Chinese proverb "kill one person and you terrorize 1,000 souls." A public relations professor in a British university says that the mass media serve the terrorists when they describe

radical groups such as the Red Army as revolutionary, undoubtedly a more palatable term used by these groups to describe themselves.

Asked about the differences between terrorism and revolutionary action, an Algerian citizen, who was assassinated at the hands of the Jewish gangs, said: "The difference between them is the same as that between a highwayman who strips you of your money and a revolutionary who only raises his arms against injustice without excess."

When the director of counter-terrorism and contingency planning in the US State Department, in a heated interview with an Arab journalist, was asked about America's conception of terrorism, he said: "We do not have a specific conception of terrorism and it is difficult to determine who the terrorist groups are and who the liberation movements are. The PLO, in our view, is a terrorist organization, but in your view is a national liberation movement. Therefore, the counter-terrorism and contingency planning department in the State Department is trying to define and deal with each event separately and independently to determine whether or not it has terrorist aims."

It is indisputable that the American position, in this flaccid definition, is very strange because its silence on communist terrorism practiced by communists everywhere and by Russia in Afghanistan is considered a political crime with regard to America, just as the United States' silence, and indeed support of Israel's crimes and terrorism, at a time when it condemns the Palestinians, is in the realm of unfairness. The upshot is that terrorism, so flaccidly defined, will persist so long as fairness is absent from the repertoire of diplomatic rhetoric..

Against Whom ... And For Whom?

The preceding distinction between terrorism and resistance notwithstanding, the former is unacceptable and the latter is legitimate. Although the super powers, such as the United States, practice terrorism, not to mention that they support it, otherwise how can one explain the hijacking of the EgyptAir plane which was forced to land after being surrounded by six American warplanes under the pretext of searching for the Italian ship hijackers in the Mediterranean, we wonder if recent incidents of air piracy were undertaken, as western news agencies alleged, and if we are skeptical about this, what was the aim behind them, in whose interest were they committed and against whom were these ill-conceived and ill-planned blows directed?

Will the hijacking of an airplane and the murder of defenseless civilian passengers in stages (one murder every 10 minutes) liberate any territory, restore any rights, or put any cause back on track?

True, such incidents may exert temporary pressures, but they remain partial and abrupt actions outside the realm of general liberation planning.

The opposite may be true. Most biased news agencies use these uncivilized tactics as the ladder or the bridge western media people, supported by Israeli backing and inherited crusade rancor, need to label such irresponsible acts as "Islamic terrorism" even though Islam threatens highwaymen--and piracy is a

kind of highway robbery--with punishment in this world and torment in the hereafter. A highwaymen in Islamic jurisprudence, according to the Qur'anic provision, is punished by amputating his hands and legs.

Terrorism, as we have said, will not come to an end by a stroke of the pen, as the saying goes. It will grow and intensify so long as the original sources of international and group terrorism are in existence as if they nurture individual terrorist movements.

We know for certain that the Arabs are almost absent from the Western media arena. But we will not tire of printing out the need to correct the course of the western vision of the Arab personality looking for peace and tranquility, away from terrorism with all its forms. It is regrettable that western media has succeeded in poisoning the American and European man on the street and in persuading him that the Middle East is the "pit of terrorism" and this area is the source of their troubles and that of the civilized world as well.

[Box inset pp 14-15]

Terrorism is old, as old as man on this earth which has been polluted ever since the dawn of history with the blood of humanity: "They said: 'Wilt thou place therein one who will make mischief therein and shed blood?'"

But why is it that this incurable human disease is spreading and intensifying and has gotter out of control in the last quarter of the so-called 20th century? Hijackings in world airports--air piracy in the skies. Its perpetrators are adolescents and its victims are children, women, old men, and young people in the prime of their life.

Sea piracy, not for money in the traditional fashion, but to serve political ends.

Mining of the sea as happened in the Arab area of the Red Sea a short time ago.

Political, press, and religious assassinations and physical liquidations.

Bombings in the cities, capitals, offices and institutions.

Booby-trapped cars and, indeed, booby-trapped men as well.

In short, terrorism is sweeping the world.

What we have cited is the "conspicuous" face of world terrorism. There is another and perhaps an uglier and more wicked face. But news blackouts on its incidents and concoctions that present it in a favorable light have allowed it to assume another name and to hide under other headlines such as "rebellion," for example, or "restraint," or "combing," or "support" by the so-called super powers to the so-called "lesser powers." Following are some examples:

What is Soviet aggression with state-of-the-art planes and tanks against the Afghan people called? Is this not terrorism?!

And the current events in South Africa where the "venerated whites" are attacking the "rightful owners of the land, the blacks." Is this not terrorism?!

And the situation in Bulgaria where Muslims are forced to change their Islamic names (even the names!), is this not terrorism?

The oppressed people of the earth, the Muslims in particular, are living in a constant state of terror, but the super powers nonetheless hide their ugly faces behind sunglasses. If an airplane is hijacked (something we denounce and condemn), their fleets roam the seas and their planes take to the skies looking for those who masterminded the hijackings or assassinations. Far from watching such known phenomena, we wonder: Is this in keeping with the civilization and progress of the time?

Or is terrorism, in its civilian, official, defensive, and colonialist individual and collective forms, part of the civilization of the time?!

We used to think--and so did the entire human race--that man goes from one civilizational phase to a higher and more advanced one. But here he is regressing in a terrible way and is going back to the cave and jungle age when he used to lie in wait for his fellow man to kill him in order to take his hide as booty.

And when the bigger, fiercer, and better-equipped tribes used to raid other weaker ones to capture their lawful possessions and take control of their sources of water and pastures.

The regression of contemporary man, through his practice of bloody terrorism in its various shapes and forms, to the ages of backwardness and decadence while singing the praises of freedom, justice, and so-called human rights, this contradictory phenomenon, needs to be studied and analyzed. It is worthier than the obsession of technology and research centers with the fabrication of individual and international terrorist tactics and the preparation of the modern world to plunge into the seas of madness, terror, worry, and fear.

[Boxed inset pp 16-17]

Some of the Most Famous World Terrorist Organizations:

The Baader-Meinhoff Organization (German Red Army): It includes 6,000 anarchists trained in urban warfare to overthrow the "capitalist state." It was founded in 1967.

The Grey Wolves Organization: A radical rightist organization that believes in murder as an ideology and a philosophy for the sake of restoring Turkey's

glory during the Ottoman Empire. It claimed 4,000 victims in 1980 alone. It came out of Turkey and covered Germany and Italy and gathered 171 associations under its banner.

The Red Brigades Organization: A communist organization whose aim is to establish a proletariat state and dismantle NATO. Most of its victims are judges and businessmen. The main source of money for this radical leftist organization is bank heists. It is a secret organization and most of its members are alleged to be in contact with foreign intelligence services. Its headquarters are in Italy.

The kamikaze Japanese Red Army Organization. Because it is kamikaze, it is described as "legendary" and the entire world is its theatre, unlike other violent international factions. It broke off from the Japanese Communist League. The peculiar thing is that this organization is run by a woman called Susako Shicenobu, a widow of one of the perpetrators of the Lod Airport operation. It is also peculiar that marriage, pregnancy, and women's earrings are bourgeois pursuits punishable by death.

The Irgun Terrorist Organization. It is widely known that the founder of this organization is Menahim Begin, the former Israeli premier, upon his arrival in Palestine in 1943. He began working against the British presence in Palestine despite the truce concluded at that time between Britain and the Jewish Agency. Its most famous operation included the bombing of the King David Hotel, the then headquarters of the British military command, and its most famous operations against the Arabs included Dayr Yasin in 1948. Its symbol is "a fist grasping a rifle covering the map of Palestine and Transjordan." It was forced to dissolve itself in September 1948 and its members joined the Israeli Defense Forces.

The Kahh Movement. Its founded is the old terrorist Meir Kahane who was born in America and is a founder of the American Jewish Defense League, headquartered in New York. It is a new organization, largely composed of murderers who came from America carrying the motto "a good Arab is a dead Arab."

The Hagana Organization. Hagana is a Hebrew word which means defense. it is a Zionist settler organization founded in Jerusalem in 1921 and is made up of a bunch of murderers who were organized into a regular army and are the nucleus of the Israeli Defense Forces formed immediately following the declaration of the Israeli state in 1948.

[Boxed inset p 18]

Some of the Most Famous Counter-Terrorist Organizations:

The Austrian Cobra Group: Founded in 1975 following the assassination

attempt against the OPEC ministers, undertaken by the world renowned terrorist "Carlos." The Cobra Group includes 140 elements in addition to 80 more in a constant state of alert and on call 24 hours a day.

The German 9th Group: It includes German internal security and customs elements. It includes 110 elements and 14 officers and is served by a large intelligence service.

The Belgian "Diyan" Group: It was formed following the Munich operation and includes 1,000 elements who were charged with the task of guarding European institutions, the NATO center, and embassies. It includes a special paratroop force that specializes in terrorist affairs and large-scale burglaries and is marked by secrecy. The "Diyan" group is composed of two distinctive units, one specialized in investigation and research, and the other is an operations unit that moves on the basis of information supplied by the first one.

The British MI-5 Unit: It was founded in 1978 to counter the secret Irish Army operations. It is a commando group on constant alert and includes 190 members. It can turn to other forces for help when necessary.

The Italian and Swiss Special Forces: Italy is known as a country of violence and assassination that has paid a much higher price than its European sisters. Therefore, it has created a specialist terrorist prevention agency that receives its instructions directly from the premier's office. In Switzerland, a special force created for this purpose includes 3,000 elements who receive high-precision training.

The American Delta Force: It is an American unit parallel to the so-called Special Forces and its function is to counter terrorism. It was ready to go in to rescue the Pan American plane in Karachi had the operation not been brought to an end by Pakistani forces. The name "Delta" has emerged in more than one incident, including the failed attempt to rescue the American hostages in Tehran.

Two Important Questions Are Left:

First, why is terrorism wide-spread and rampant despite the presence of such forces and units?

Second, why do the Arabs not form special joint units to combat terrorism inside Arab land and airports?

12502

CSO: 4404/96

INTERVIEW WITH FOREIGN MINISTER AL-NU'AYMI

London AL-HAWADITH in Arabic 7 Nov 86 pp 38, 39

[Interview: "Foreign Minister of the Emirates to AL-HAWADITH: The War of Tankers May Become a Pretext for International Intervention and the Reason for the Plot Against OPEC Is Its Support for the Palestinian Cause"]

[Text] During his presence in New York in the framework of a meeting of a number of foreign ministers of the Gulf states to discuss a group of hot issues with American officials, AL-HAWADITH met with the foreign minister of the United Arab Emirates, Mr Rashid 'Abdallah al-Nu'aymi. The conversation centered on the most important issues that occupy the Gulf states today, first and foremost of which is the issue of the Iraq-Iran war and the possibilities that it might spread. This is the subject that the foreign ministers of the Gulf states raised during their meeting recently with Shultz.

During the meeting, the influx of arms to the two warring countries was discussed as well as the position of the Soviet Union toward this war and the scope of Soviet-Gulf relations in general. Also discussed was the issue of OPEC, which al-Nu'aymi believes is the object of an international conspiracy because of its positions in support of liberation movements, especially the Palestinian national liberation movement.

In the beginning of the meeting with Minister al-Nu'aymi, the following question was asked:

[Question] During your meeting with George Shultz, he told you that, "the spread of the war threatens fundamental American interests." Are there American guarantees to prevent the spread of the Iran-Iraq war to neighboring countries in the Gulf?

[Answer] What we want from all countries is that they not be satisfied with saying that the spread of the war threatens their interests. We want them to say that the war itself is what is threatening the interests of the countries of the region and the interests of the countries of the entire world. This is what we want from everyone, including the parties of the conflict in the war.

[Question] Do you think that countries do not have this conviction now?

[Answer] What we have heard from countries before the General Assembly and from the countries that are members of the Security Council indicates to us the existence of a feeling of the necessity for serious action to stop this war.

[Question] Secretary Shultz told you and the foreign ministers of the Gulf Cooperation Council as well that the Americans and Soviets found during their discussions of regional issues a common interest in ending the Iraq-Iran war. However, he added that the Soviets have not acted with enough resolution to prevent the influx of arms into Iran from the client states of the Soviets. Do you share this opinion?

[Answer] We give our blessing to efforts and action for the sake of ending the war by all means, whether they are diplomatic, political, economic, or even military efforts expended for the sake of peace and to stop this war.

[Question] The United States says that it is making efforts with the countries belonging to its camp to not supply arms to Iran. Do you think that the U.S. is doing enough in this area?

[Answer] This war has entered its 7th year and it continues. The war can only progress with arms and arms are amply provided in this war to both sides.

[Question] What then is the true position of the two super powers? They claim that they want to end this war, while the influx of arms has not stopped.

[Answer] We consider the positions of the two super powers realistic and as tangibly progressive toward the necessity of ending this war, which has indeed come to menace their interests.

[Question] What do you see as the Soviet role on the level of the Gulf in general and the Iraq-Iran war and on the level of bilateral relations between the Soviet Union and the United Arab Emirates after the establishment of diplomatic relations between you two?

[Answer] The Soviet Union, as a superpower, plays a constructive role in many international issues. With regard to Arab issues, the Soviet Union has a special role. However, the Soviet Union, as a superpower, also has its own interests. We, as Arabs and as residents of the Gulf, must deal with it with this in mind.

[Question] What do you mean by this?

[Answer] We treat states based on how they treat us. To far, the presence of the Soviet Union in the Gulf has been limited. We hope that this presence will be a factor in the stability and peace of the Gulf region.

[Question] What are your thoughts on the extension of official diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, given that only three of these six states have diplomatic relations with Moscow?

[Answer] This question depends on the other countries.

[Question] Was this subject brought up during the discussion of the bringing together and unifying of the ranks and positions of the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council, to enable them to have congruous positions toward the two superpowers?

[Answer] The establishment of diplomatic relations between two states is the affair of the states concerned.

[Question] It is frequently repeated that China occupies the first place on the list of states that supply arms to Iran. Have any meetings been held or any contacts been made between you and China to discuss this matter?

[Answer] The sevenfold committee, charged by the Arab League to undertake such tasks, is discussing this matter.

[Question] What is your evaluation of Syria's position toward Iran?

[Answer] Syria's relations with Iran are friendly, developed, and good. We hope that these relations can be exploited to serve Arab issues and to serve the security and stability of the Gulf.

[Question] Do you consider that Syria's support of Iran has a negative role that does not benefit the Gulf region and its interests?

[Answer] We hope that the role of every Arab country will be positive and based first and foremost on the preservation of Arab security and that the higher Arab interest will be represented in the relations of every Arab state with other states.

[Question] Is collective defense the cornerstone of the strategy of the Gulf Cooperation Council?

[Answer] Part of the cooperation among the states of the Gulf Cooperation Council is cooperation in the area of defense. We have passed an important, major phase. This is a strategic matter upon which our survival as a group depends, because the future is not for small, weak states; it is for strong states and strong groups that cooperate in all areas. The most important of these areas is that of security, defense, and the preservation of security in each state.

[Question] Is this matter considered the most important of the Abu Dhabi summit talks?

[Answer] We do not have in the Cooperation Council an issue that we call number one and other we consider last. Cooperation in all areas has priority and we are working in all areas, economic, security, military, and many others. We cooperate in all areas similarly, because they all complement one another.

[Question] I am bringing up a question about security issues and collective defense topics because Iran is threatening to launch a decisive attack on

Iraq. This is in light of the fact that Iranian statements have been issued saying that Iran may not be able to continue to deliver the oil of the Gulf states for Iraq.

[Answer] Cooperation in military matters in the Gulf Cooperation Council is not directed against anyone. This cooperation in all areas, and especially in military and security matters, is not directed against anyone. It is to preserve our security, our stability, and our future in the region.

[Question] Do you think that the recent Iranian threat have taken a new turn that might threaten the future of the region or a world?

[Answer] Since the beginning of the war, we have been dealing with this question in such a way that the states of the Cooperation Council are responsible for maintaining their security and their stability. These states do not accept any threats from any quarter whatsoever.

[Question] In your opinion, what are the issues that preoccupy the members of the Cooperation Council, especially under the leadership of Bahrain?

[Answer] The Cooperation Council has an integrated system, not just an economic, military, or social one. It is an approach that includes interaction and cooperation in all areas. We believe that the Arab Summit will concentrate on treating the decisions that were adopted before and that need a new push for their implementation. Perhaps there will be certain decisions that are in the process of being implemented, but need a strong push so that their implementation will be more beneficial to the peoples of the Gulf. The summit is a summit to review what our forum has achieved in all the other fields. Likewise, it will lay the foundation for a new path toward the future. I believe that the summit will reestablish the foundation that was laid in the past and will begin to search for new foundations, especially since we now have a dialogue with international economic groups, so that we will have international economic cooperation. We are also an oil-exporting country. We were greatly hurt by the conspiracy that was aimed at OPEC. These economic issues, which are of vital importance to us, will take on in the future a greater importance. Likewise, an interest in international cooperation with international groups in economic matters will begin in the coming period.

[Question] Who is behind what you called the conspiracy against OPEC?

[Answer] I think that the conspiracy against OPEC is an international conspiracy, whose primary goal was to destroy countries that give assistance especially in support of the Palestinian cause and other just causes such as the issue of South Africa and the issue of Namibia. The presence of OPEC with its economic possibilities perhaps irritated certain parties, especially those that have an out-dated imperialist mentality. This conspiracy was conceived and implemented by people with interests at stake. We hope that the states of OPEC will reassemble their ranks and reshape themselves in order to protect the interests of their peoples. We also hope that it can survive and continue, because it has a future.

[Question] The war on the oil tankers menaces economic interests. You in the Cooperation Council must have studied how to face this danger. What is your evaluation of this matter?

[Answer] We believe that the war on the tankers has dangerous consequences. Perhaps it will be an opening for international intervention in the Gulf. Therefore we are always alert and wary of the continuation of the striking of tankers in the Gulf, so that a pretext is not given to the powerful nations to interfere in the Gulf.

[Question] What is your opinion in the Cooperation Council about what Iran wants from this war at this point?

[Answer] I cannot imagine what Iran wants from this war. What I think is that peace is necessary to Iran, just as it is necessary to Iraq and to the Gulf region.

[Question] Iran says that it will not stop the war before the regime in Iraq falls. Do you think this is Iran's only goal in continuing the war?

[Answer] First of all, this is something that is unacceptable and it is unbelievable that a state would demand the overthrow of a regime in another state. The government in Iraq exists by the desire of the people of Iraq and no one can bring it down.

[Question] What is the solution for the three islands? Is this issue taking a back seat at this stage because the war continues in the region? Or have you discussed this issue with Iran recently?

[Answer] The issue of these islands has been turned over to the Arab League and has become an Arab responsibility. Likewise, we have turned the matter over to the United Nations.

[Question] We return to what the American secretary of state, George Shultz, said during his meeting with the minister of the Gulf Cooperation Council. He said, "Effective cooperation in fighting terrorism has become an urgent matter." To what extent are you willing to coordinate with the U.S. in the area of fighting terrorism?

[Answer] If what he means by terrorism is killing innocent people and women and children and aimless and pointless killing, then we do not accept it; indeed, we completely reject it. However, if the idea of what was said on terrorism is people who have certain rights defending them, then we do not accept this definition of terrorism.

[Question] In view of the fact that there is a difference in the definition of terrorism between the Arab states on one hand and the United States on the other, does this matter have a place in discussions between you and the Americans when the conversation concerns fighting terrorism?

[Answer] We always say that everyone who has a right and whose land is occupied has the right to defend his land and his rights by any means.

PLANS TO AID FAMILIES DISPLACED BY NEW TEST RANGE

New Delhi PATRIOT in English 4 Nov 86 p 5

[Text]

A scheme for developing the Baliapal-Bhograi area in Balasore district of Orissa has been drawn up to rehabilitate the families affected by the decision to establish the national test range in the State, reports PTL.

The test range has already suffered a delay of six months because of the resistance from some quarters, particularly the rich land owning classes.

The Government has, therefore, come up with a scheme for developing model villages with modern facilities. Out of a total sum of Rs 1,000 crore to be spent for setting up the range, Rs 400 crore will be on instrumentation and other facilities for testing guided missiles and satellite launch vehicles.

The balance will be spent on acquisition of land, construction of lines and on setting up of industries to provide employment.

The site has been selected after careful considerations to the safety factors as also to the suitability of the place which is adjacent to the sea coast.

At the instance of the State Government, the Defence Ministry has revised the project parameters shifting some of the facilities elsewhere and reducing the area to be acquired from 40,000 kms to 25,000 kms.

The total population that will be affected has also come down from over 70,000 to 40,790 (about 6,500 families).

/13046

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INDIA

BRIEFS

INDO-YUGOSLAV TRADE PACT--Belgrade, Oct 25 (Tanjug)--India and Yugoslavia will exchange goods worth about 200 million dollars, under an agreement signed here on Thursday. Extending their 1984 goods exchange agreement through September 1988, the Indo-Yugoslav agreement envisaged a balance exchange between the two countries. The value of Yugoslav-Indian trade stood at 87.3 million dollars for the first nine months of this year, or twice the value recorded in the same period of 1985. Yugoslavia and India are currently negotiating more advanced forms of economic cooperation--industrial cooperation and joint investments in third countries. Meanwhile, in view of President Zail Singh's forthcoming visit to Yugoslavia, a foreign office spokesman said, that the forthcoming official visit of the Indian President will further stimulate comprehensive cooperation between Yugoslavia and India. The official spokesman of the Yugoslav foreign secretariat ambassador Aleksandar Stanic said at a press conference here that the visit is significant in the context of long-standing friendly relations between Yugoslavia and India. [Text] [New Delhi PATRIOT in English 26 Oct 86 p 10] /13046

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